

MARYLAND

HISTORICAL MAGAZINE

VOL. V.

DECEMBER, 1910.

No. 4.

EXTRACTS FROM A JOURNAL KEPT DURING THE EARLIER CAMPAIGNS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.¹

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In August, 1861, Hon. E. D. Baker, U. S. Senator from Oregon, was authorized by Gen. Cameron to organize an independent brigade. Such was the confidence of both the President and the Secretary of War in this distinguished soldier and statesman, that, in order to facilitate his patriotic purpose, he was invested with a degree of plenary power which, so far as I know, was subsequently accorded to no other man. He had already raised a first-class regiment of three battalions, named after his favorite state of California, and composed mainly of young men of good family from the city of Philadelphia. To this he was anxious to add the Irish element, the firemen, and young men from the country. Through his tireless energy, coupled with the prestige of his name as a Colonel in the Mexican War, his power as an orator, and his fame as a statesman, these elements were gathered

¹ Read before the Society April 5th, 1866.

together and incorporated into a brigade in an incredibly short space of time. Lieut.-Col. Wistar commanded the 1st, or California Regiment, Col. Owen the 2nd, or Irish Regiment, Col. Baxter the 3rd, or Fire Zouaves, numbering, like the California, nearly 1,800 men, and Col. Morehead the 4th. It fell to my lot to be commissioned Surgeon of the Irish Regiment, with which I remained in active service until compelled by broken health toward the close of the following year to resign and to exchange the field for the hospital. After Col. Baker's death at Ball's Bluff, the Philadelphia Brigade, as it was often called, was commanded by Col. Owen, who was eventually relieved by Gen. W. W. Burns. Gen. Cameron was true to his liberal promises, and by his advice we became attached to the Pennsylvania State organization, my regiment being numbered the 69th, and the others the 71st, 72nd and 106th.

It may not be out of place, and it is no disparagement to other troops to say that a finer or more effective body of men could not be found on either side in our great sectional conflict. It was their fate to mingle in nearly every engagement in which the Army of the Potomac was concerned. Whenever there was desperate and bloody work to be done, they were sure to be summoned. By tens and by hundreds they laid down their lives on the skirmishing lines, in the battle front, in the hospitals, and in the hot beds of malaria, until their ashes were scattered from Ball's Bluff to Malvern Hill and from Gettysburg to the Wilderness. More than three-fourths of my fellow-officers were thus sacrificed, and of the original rank and file, there is scarcely a shadow left. A connected history of the operations of that Brigade would form one of the most entertaining and instructive chapters in the history of the "grand army." Its length, however, would preclude its reading here, were it written, and I therefore thought of selecting for description some one of the more memorable incidents of the earlier campaigns, "*quorum pars fui*," which up to this time have not been fully and faithfully portrayed, but being at somewhat of a loss in selection, I have concluded for

the present to make a few occasional extracts from a diary kept in the field, for the purpose of giving a few items of individual experience, and of recalling impressions and observations made at the time, some of which have been materially modified, or even reversed by subsequent events. As there are considerable gaps or intervals between these extracts, it may be necessary for me to state in advance that we were first assigned to the command of Gen. W. F. Smith in the defences of Washington. Thence we were transferred to the Corps of Observation, under Gen. C. P. Stone, whose division, it will be recollected, was stationed between Poolesville and the mouth of the Monocacy. Gen. Banks' division being posted below Edwards' Ferry, and Col. Geary at the Point of Rocks. This army was intended to check any flank movement upon Washington from the Virginia shore. The hostile forces confronted each other on the opposite banks of the Potomac until the close of February, 1862, when active offensive movements commenced. Upon the arrest of Gen. Stone we were placed in command of Gen. Sedgwick, and when the grand army broke camp, we proceeded to Winchester by way of Harper's Ferry, Charlestown and Berrysburg. This movement having been successfully accomplished, our division was withdrawn from the column of Gen. Banks, and sent back as far as Alexandria, where we embarked for Fortress Monroe to join the main body of the army under Gen. McClellan, in Gen. Sumner's Corps.

Camp Advance, September 29, 1861.

This is the first day I have had an opportunity to explore our surroundings, and to take the bearings and distances. Our camp is near Fort Ethan Allen, and about a mile and a quarter from the Chain Bridge. Aside from the upheavals made by our engineers, and the woods laid prostrate by our axemen, I don't think I have ever seen a more dreary and uninviting region than this section of Fairfax county. Nothing but undergrowth and overgrowth, waste and abandoned lands with no

signs of tillage, and no indications of previous comfort, or even vitality. Here and there is a wretched log cabin, apparently set up as an impersonation of unthrift and poverty. Ah, well, unless we are false prophets, this war can't last long, and when it's over, some of these Yankee soldiers will come back to reclaim this God-forsaken tract, and with the help of elbow grease and guano, convert it to its proper uses, and shape its frowns into smiles.

10.30 P. M. Had just turned in for the night, and was enjoying a hickory crib which proves the good taste and constructive skill of my ambulance boys, when the long roll beat. Its startling tones were instantly followed by the hum of preparation. Ere its last echoes died away I was dressed and ready, and my horse and knapsack orderly were at the tent door. It was dark as the mouth of Acheron, and we started, we know not whither, but evidently in the direction of Falls' Church. No lights were permitted, and silence was enjoined. Noiselessly almost as falling snow, we wended our way for about three miles, until in defiling down a narrow lane, with woods on one side and bushes skirting open fields on the other, we were astounded by a sudden blaze of musketry which seemed to envelope our whole line. We were in the midst of this interesting pyrotechnic display nearly fifteen minutes, friends and comrades falling all around us and believing we had drifted into an ambushade. At length the firing ceased, it having been discovered that scouting parties which had been sent out in different directions returned simultaneously, encountering each other and the marching column, and in the confusion arising mistaking friend for foe. After attending to the wants of my wounded, I took them back to camp. In the morning we learned the object of our nocturnal tramp—a reconnoissance in force. I met my old friend Capt. Barr, who had charge of the artillery, in front of his quarters. He told me that — — was drunk, and that in his bewilderment he had ordered him to turn his guns upon the advancing column and sweep the road. Barr did not choose to slaughter his own men, and

sternly refused to obey. The order was not repeated, clearer ideas of the situation having prevailed, and nothing was said about insubordination.

Looking sadly at the bodies of our fallen comrades, we could not help adverting to the stupidity of the arrangements which led to so serious a disaster. It is our first experience of this kind, but it is not the first time in the present contest that such a misfortune has occurred, and it is very evident that some self-protective system or badges or signals must be adopted in order to avert similar calamities in future. It is equally evident that we have trouble to apprehend from intoxicated commanders, and that unless the War Department summarily punishes such infraction of discipline, our progress will be interrupted by grievous blunders.

Camp Observation, four miles from Poolesville.

Monday, October 21, 3 A. M. All up and in line, according to last evening's instructions. Judging from the tone of the note I received from our chief medical officer, we are going to have hot work. I have inspected my instruments, dressings, stimulants, anæsthetics, &c., for about the twentieth time, and am confident nothing is overlooked. Marched out to our parade ground to await further orders. At sunrise, Col. Baker made his appearance. At times, he seemed pale, as if from some indefinable apprehension; while for the most part, he was flushed with extraordinary excitement. It was evident from his unwonted perturbation that there was something unusual astir. As I watched him, I was reminded of two little facts, which I dovetailed together. When I last met Mr. Lincoln in Washington, he said to me, "I have offered Baker a Major General's commission. He carries it in his pocket. It remains with him to accept it or not." On Saturday evening, Col. B., on his return, after a brief absence, in conversation with one of my fellow officers on the way from Monocacy to camp, remarked in reference to a higher grade of rank, that

he would not accept such a commission until he had done something to merit it, quoting the expression, "Palmarum qui meruit, ferat." Until that utterance I thought that he was reluctant to resign his seat in the Senate. It was now clear to me that a coveted opportunity for distinction had arrived. After curvetting around for a short time, he disappeared with the California regiment, and soon after, we followed toward the Potomac, in the direction of Conrad's Ferry. Our march was slow, and our halting frequent. It seemed as if we were meant as a reserve. It was four o'clock when we reached the bank of the canal opposite Harrison's Island. On the Virginia shore a battle was raging fiercely. We could not get a glimpse of the combatants on account of the wooded character of the bluff. Here we learned that part of the California regiment, under Wistar, part of the Tammany, Col. Cogswell, part of the 15th Massachusetts, Col. Devens, and part of the 20th Massachusetts, Col. Lee, in all about eighteen or nineteen hundred men, had crossed over and were engaged in the conflict, that the only mode of crossing the river was in three flat boats, whose united capacity was sufficient to convey but little more than one full company and that their progress was embarrassed by the swiftness of the current on the Virginia side and by the delays incident to bringing back the wounded. Thus we waited in wearisome expectancy. Meanwhile the word was passed that Col. Baker had fallen, and soon after his body was carried by. I have no language for what followed this appalling blow. Those who were present can never forget that hour of gloom. We lost not a mere military leader, but one who in all respects had been our "guide, philosopher and friend." Anon came word that the solitary scow between the Island and the Virginia shore had swamped with a heavy human freight, cutting off communication, preventing reinforcement from our side and rendering retreat from the other side impracticable. And then as night closed around came rumors thick and fast that a most frightful tragedy had been enacted, that our little force had been overpowered by superior numbers and that hundreds of

our friends had been ruthlessly slaughtered, some of them being bayoneted on the bank, and others shot while attempting to swim the river. For myself I soon found measurable relief from the heavy oppression in active duty, assisting my fellow surgeons in the needful operations upon the wounded and in securing them extempore places of repose until a late hour in the night when I followed my regiment back to camp.

November 1. It is now ten days since the calamity of Ball's Bluff. I am still puzzled in regard to the full meaning of that unfortunate movement, but as nothing else is talked about I gain some points every day, particularly in conversation with officials from Headquarters. I am annoyed to hear so many harsh epithets applied to Gen. Stone. I believe they are as unwarranted as they are inconsiderate. It may be that I am unduly prejudiced by tokens of personal favor, but I have more numerous and more pleasant mementoes to cherish of Col. Baker's kindness of heart. In the one case, they were the result of casual interviews; in the other, of an intimacy the reminiscences of which I shall always gratefully treasure. To accuse Gen. Stone of madness, or incompetency, or of playing into the hands of the rebels on the other side of the river, is, I believe, as utterly unjustifiable as to charge Col. Baker with rashness and precipitancy. If Gen. Stone exceeded his orders, it was not through any promptings of disobedience, or, as has been alleged in some quarters,—and it is quite incomprehensible to me,—through treachery. The worst that can be said about him is that he was superserviceable. And if Baker was driven to an extremity which necessitated the sacrifice of his life, it was not because he was rash or desperate, but simply because as a good soldier he was compelled to follow out his instructions. We are convinced from his actions, and from some of his remarks, particularly when he characterized an order received, as his "death warrant," that he had a presentiment that he was fated to lead a forlorn hope, but we knew that he was just the man to welcome, not to shirk a duty imposed, even though, with far-reaching discernment, he saw beyond it all, the preci-

pice and the abyss. It was not the reckless acceptance of the hazard of a die; it was simple obedience, simple duty, but obedience hailed with pleasure, and duty performed with alacrity; and once in for it, there was no backing out, "*nulla vestigia retrorsum*." Individually, his bravery verged upon the extreme of indifference, but it was not the foolhardiness that would risk a cause, and especially a cause upon which rested the hopes of millions. It is easy to see now what a fatal mistake Gen. Stone made in his programme, but it is not so easy to say whether any one else in his place would have avoided similar error. It is evident that he did not anticipate a severe conflict, or he would have made better provision for transportation, and thereby for reinforcement and retreat, than that afforded by three miserable flatboats. We know now that it was not the design of Gen. McClellan to bring on a general engagement at any point. We know that McCall's temporary occupation of Dranesville, Gorman's artillery practice and feints of crossing at Edward's Ferry, and Devens' scouting in the direction of Leesburg were parts of a general reconnoissance, the object of which was to ascertain the exact position and force of the enemy in our front. If we rightly interpret the tenor of Gen. Stone's written orders we are to infer that he believed from our combined demonstrations the enemy would withdraw toward Goose Creek where they could more advantageously mass, and where they could find the best defensive position. In the order dated 11.50 A. M., he says, "I am informed that the force of the enemy, all told, is about 4000 men. If you can push them, you may do so as far as to have a strong position near Leesburg, if you can keep them before you, avoiding their batteries. If they pass Leesburg and take the Green Springs road, you will not follow far, but seize the first good position to cover that road. Their design is to draw us on, if they are obliged to retreat, as far as Goose Creek, where they can be reinforced from Manassas, and have a strong position."

All night long we heard the locomotive whistles on the other side. Train after train came pouring up from Manassas with

Confederate reinforcements. Every hour showed what a fearful miscalculation had been made. Every day since has proved that the original movement should have ceased on Sunday night. To undertake, on the next day, to push 4000 men with less than half that number, and when our little party was liable to be overpowered by the arrival, at any moment, of ten times 4,000, and that, too, after selecting the worst crossing and the worst landing on the river, with an utter lack of transportation, or indeed, preparation of any kind, was a procedure, which, if we were to judge it on its face, and to decide it in accordance with its appearances, we should feel obliged to condemn as a piece of immeasurable and inexplicable folly. Nevertheless, we must await the revelations of Time before pronouncing a verdict. Meanwhile, we have one assurance for which we cannot feel too grateful. All the testimony confirms the fact that true courage never had a finer illustration than was presented by our boys on that fatal field. When they found that they were hopelessly entrapped and irremediably cut off, instead of yielding to panic or dismay, they coolly determined to sell their lives at the dearest possible cost. They have proved to the world that there was no better stuff at Thermopylæ. They have shown the material of which our soldiers are made, their admirable morals, their steady discipline, their invincible courage, their devotion to the cause, their reliability in the last extremity, and what is not least in point of encouragement, they have been the first in the work of effacing the stinging memories of Bull Run, and in neutralizing its demoralizing influences.

February 9th, 1862. Word came this evening that Gen. Stone had been arrested, and was already on his way to Fort Lafayette. Our perplexity knew no bounds. After Father Martin's evening services, I went to his tent. We filled our pipes and sat down in silence, for I saw that the chaplain's heart was full. Said he, at length, "I have been Gen. Stone's father confessor so long that I believe I know him better than any man living. He comes to my tent, or I visit him in

Poolesville, as you know, nearly every day. We ride together, dine together, chat and read together, and go up in the balloon together, continually. Aside from his religious duties, of which he is faithfully observant, he has been as open and free as air in all his intercourse. A more communicative man I never met. Among the silly rumors I have heard is a charge of disloyalty. I have no patience with anything so false. I'll stake my life on his loyalty. Yes," he repeated with vehemence, rising from his stool, "I'll stake *my life* on that. No, no, it's not that. But how absurd it is, too. Why, consider a moment, if Gen. Stone had been treacherous to the cause, how easy it would have been, by preconcerted measures, to have moved his whole division over the river to be surrounded and gobbled up. This stuff about treachery all comes from his intercommunication with the other side through this miserable fellow down here at the Potomac, Elijah White. I never asked the General, how a man can be made subservient to his purpose who seems more likely to play into the hands of the rebels, but I know that through him valuable information has been repeatedly obtained. Well, we'll have this painful mystery cleared up after awhile. Let us wait patiently till we learn the official charges. Take my word for it, he'll come out from the court-martial that tries him with clean skirts and a record all the brighter for being ventilated. An enemy has done this, and it will recoil upon the wretch, whoever he is, tenfold. This business must be looked into forthwith. We can't afford to lose the services of such expert artillerists, to say nothing of his capacity as a general officer. We have not a superabundance of such trained material in the Union army. Moreover, we can't forget his services to the nation on the occasion of Mr. Lincoln's inauguration, and the special thanks of Gen. Scott for the marked efficiency he exhibited with the small force at his disposal. I am inclined to think that his injudicious letter in reply to Mr. Sumner's strictures has done this business. I was told by Gen. Stone that that exasperated Senator had openly vowed vengeance, and it may be that this

is the shape in which it has come. If so, we'll have another conflict between the civil and the military, and it remains to be seen which is stronger."

The trial never took place. Evidently some third party is mixed up in this affair who is likely to wear a disguise as impenetrable as the "iron mask."

I pass over the Winchester expedition, merely remarking that Gen. Sedgwick took command of our division on the way to Harper's Ferry, and also that we were overjoyed when we learned that we were to be transferred from Gen. Banks, in whom we had no confidence whatever, to Gen. McClellan, in whom there was no lack of confidence.

Thursday, April 3rd. Rode from our camp at Hampton over to Old Point to lay in a stock of provisions for our march. While there, joined some friends in a visit to the Fortress. After inspecting the various objects of interest, we took occasion to call upon Major-General Wool. In the course of conversation he said emphatically, "Gentlemen, you will have an easy march to Richmond; you will encounter no serious interruptions; the enemy will fall back as you advance, and my only fear is that they will retreat to some point so far beyond Richmond as to extend the lines of communication and supply to a most inconvenient distance from a water base." After our departure a colonel in our little party on referring to this remark, said, "This old martinet talks at random, and if we trust to him we shall be badly fooled. God help us if we have to look for guidance to such epauletted grannies. He had better take Norfolk and finish up the Merrimac before indulging in such complacency and painting the future in such rose colors."

Friday, April 4th. At last the On to Richmond is fairly sounded, and our tramp up the peninsula commences. Left Hampton early in the morning and marched to Great Bethel, where our feelings were stirred by memories of the early deaths

of Winthrop and Greble, and the blundering and stupid mismanagement of Pierce. Here for the first time we met the regulars, several regiments passing us on the march. Of course it is heresy to say that they are not the finest body of soldiers the sun ever shone upon, but I simply record the united conviction of our volunteers that, so far as externals go, it would be hard to rake up a meaner looking set of scallawags than the regular privates. Went to our grassy beds supperless, our wagons having been impeded by broken-down artillery.

Saturday, April 5th. Resumed our march at 3 A. M. Halted at Howard's mill during a heavy rain, and inspected the formidable defences at that point which had been abandoned by the enemy. Gen. McClellan and staff passed during our halt. As this was his first appearance since leaving Old Point, he was enthusiastically cheered along the line. I believe I hurrahed as loudly as any one, though if I were asked why, I should be puzzled to tell. I certainly am very much attached to him, and I suppose we are all more or less addicted to hero-worship. We sadly feel the need of some one to lean upon, to help us out of our troubles, and to steer us clear of the breakers. Our commander comes to us with high endorsements, and his name is already a bow of promise. We know that he is an engineer, and we believe that he is a strategist. We mean to have him all we would like to have him. We invest him, by common consent, with the qualities which made Frederick great, and Marlborough conspicuous. We look upon him as the rising star of our country's salvation. At the same time, little misgivings occasionally thrust themselves in, and I become apprehensive that we may be in too much of a hurry, that we are honoring and applauding him not for what he has done, but for what we believe he will do, for presumptive glories, not for crowning fruition, and that after all, it is just possible that we may be styling him the Young Napoleon on the "lucus a non lucendo" principle.—After taking up the line of march again, we pushed on to a point within five miles of Yorktown. We noted that though a train of Headquarters wagons,

thirty in number passed by, everything being made subservient to their progress, no other wagons were visible, and consequently we breakfasted, dined and supped on thin air.

Sunday, April 6th. Another morning without rations. This privation is becoming serious. We are realizing how inexorable is that physiological law which requires the periodical replenishing of the human breadbasket. We must profit by this result of inexperience and learn to carry concentrated food in our haversacks hereafter. Our horses are a little better off, finding grass to nibble. I am fain to beg a cracker from some of our men, but unfortunately, they have not half enough for themselves, and I must remember that while they are out on guard and picket duty at night, I can sleep. About noon our camp chest arrived, and we pitched into its contents in a style that would have done credit to a pack of famished wolves.

Sunday, April 13th. To-day we had a general inspection and review. Verily, this army is becoming famous for reviews. Well, it seems more like the pomp and circumstance of actual war than the last few days. During the rainy and chilly week past we seem to have been transformed into woodmen. Nothing has been heard in any direction but the ring of the axe. We have mapped out the woods with new roads, and corduroyed the swamps for miles, for no other purpose, apparently, than to benefit the inhabitants of this miserable region when the war is over.

Monday and Tuesday, April 14th and 15th. Two days of rest. Staid in bed to keep warm, the rain quenching the fires. As the Major and I now occupy the same tent, we pass the time in chatting and smoking our pipes. When we have nothing else to talk about, we make our wills, consigning to each other's care our personal effects in case we fall in battle.

Wednesday, April 16th. Once more a gleam of sunshine. Rode with the Quartermaster over to Cheeseman's creek to forage for oysters, and secured as many as we could carry back. At Ship Point we visited the famous rebel camp upon which a Polish Colonel had expended so vast an amount of engineering

skill. Everything was tasteful and elaborate, the barracks, the offices, the chapel, the stables, the paved ways, and the surrounding fortifications exhibiting an amount of labor almost incredible. We are not surprised to learn that this Slavonian soldier resigned in disgust when compelled by order of Magruder to evacuate a work which was to him a source of infinite pride. On our return we called at several houses to procure milk. We encountered some of the saddest cases of destitution I ever beheld. Many of the women and children had but a single calico gown to cover them. Their stock of provisions was nearly exhausted, all that was left being a little corn meal, and in some cases, a little bacon, while God only knew where the next was to come from. No men were to be seen, all having been conscripted into the Confederate army. Heard at Grafton church that we were under marching orders. Hastened to camp and found everything in motion. Advanced two miles and bivouacked for the night, having a very palatable oyster stew to sleep on. Next morning on looking over the root of the tree which formed my pillow, found I had a bedfellow comfortably coiled up in the shape of a large snake.

Thursday, May 1st. Not the historic May day of song and story. Everything soaked with rain, chilly and cheerless. But we are gradually becoming amphibious. Four weeks' inundations have failed to drown us out, and rheumatism has not yet ankylosed our joints. Every other day we regularly take our turn at the front, almost within pistol shot of the rebel lines, and as we find "water, water, everywhere," the only alternative presented is either to lie down in it, or to stand up in it. Fires are not permitted, as they would serve as beacons to concentrate upon as a shower of canister. To add to our discomfort and perplexity after a night dreary and wearisome beyond expression, morning light frequently reveals our horses sunk up to their bellies in some miserable quagmire or quicksand. After being pretty thoroughly saturated by twenty-four hours of exposure, we are relieved by some other brigade, and go back to camp to dry off.

This running parallels by gradual approaches is tedious business. Two weeks ago an effort was made to break the rebel line in its weakest point near Warwick river, but it proved a dismal failure, some of the finest Vermont companies in Baldy Smith's command having been sacrificed at Lee's Mills in a manner and under circumstances which have subjected him to very marked, though unmerited execration. That slaughter will always stand out as one of the darkest and most sorrowful pictures of the war, but it had its uses. It showed the madness of storming works so arranged that sluices could be opened in force and quantity sufficient to drown an invading party. It proved that unless with the assistance of the gunboats in York river we could accomplish a flank movement on the rebel left, we must undertake a regular siege. Notwithstanding the amount of rain that has fallen we have made considerable advance. Every night we unmask some new battery, and we are rapidly bridging swamps for the transportation of our siege guns. At some points our men work all day in the face of the rebel batteries, and within six hundred yards, throwing up earthworks and raising block observatories. They are sufficiently protected by Berdan's sharpshooters, who, with their heavy telescopic rifles, are posted at every available point. If a rebel gunner makes his appearance at the embrasure he is sure to be picked off by these unerring marksmen. Sometimes, in desperation, the negroes are driven by the officers to the guns at the point of the bayonet, but they are invariably sure to get a quietus from a dozen leaden messengers of death. One morning we directed Gen. Sumner's attention to a man in the top of a tree more than three-quarters of a mile distant, who had for days been posted to watch our movements, and whom we thought it time to dislodge. Two of Berdan's men were sent for, and one of them, after carefully sighting his piece on a rest, pulled the trigger, and down dropped the rebel.

Sunday, May 4th. Awakened early in the morning by the exciting intelligence that the rebels had evacuated their works, and were in full retreat to Williamsburg. Soon after came

the orders for occupation and pursuit. The left flank being advanced to Williamsburg, we were held in reserve, apparently destined for Yorktown. We did not get started, however, until next morning, remaining under arms all day and night and our baggage packed. It became known through some straggling prisoner, that the evacuation, which was not discovered until completion, had been going on for four days,—so we had ample time for speculation upon the value of Lowe's balloon as a means of reconnoitering. After such an experience as this—allowing the rebels to quietly pack up their traps and leisurely walk away till out of sight,—the aeronautic windbag was unanimously voted a pretty but very expensive plaything.

Monday, May 5th. At daylight we proceeded, in a heavy rain, through mud whose depth and tenacity I have never seen equalled. The wagons and artillery becoming inextricably stuck in the narrow roads, we were compelled to dodge through the woods and thickets until we arrived on the plains of Yorktown, near the spot where Cornwallis surrendered in 1780. I rode immediately into one of the abandoned fortifications, taking it as a type of the series across the peninsula, and for an hour and a half inspected minutely the objects of interest, the cabins, store houses, paved streets, covered ways, bomb-proofs, magazines, hot shot furnaces, siege guns, etc., all displaying the result of an incalculable amount of labor. Soon after my return I found that I had escaped with whole bones from one of the most diabolical modes of assassination ever resorted to by any fiendish sprigs of chivalry. Percussion shells and torpedoes were secretly planted wherever any one would be likely to tread, but either the pouring rain had melted the fuses, or my lucky horse chanced to step on harmless ground. An hour later, John Green, Co. D, in the adjoining fort where the famous Whitworth gun had burst, trod on a concealed shell. His left leg was torn off at the knee and carried over the immense rampart into the ditch. Being at a considerable distance from camp, twenty-five minutes elapsed before I could reach him in response to the message. Still conscious, but sinking from hemorrhage and nervous shock.

Amputated thigh at middle, tied the femoral artery, and was looking for the profunda when he ceased to breathe. It was a sorrowful scene, and one made more solemn by the gloom of the drizzling rain, and more impressive by the indignant faces and the muttered vengeance of the hundreds who were looking on. And yet we were destined to learn before nightfall that John Green was only the first of twelve noble fellows who were hurled successively into eternity by these infernal contrivances.

Late in the afternoon we were ordered out. Remained under arms till next morning. It was rumored that the enemy instead of escaping from Williamsburg had been so hotly pressed by our left wing that they were compelled to assume the defensive. It was uncertain for some hours whether our assistance would be needed in that direction, or whether we would embark on the transports for West Point. It drizzled all night and the mud was ankle deep. The men were forced to stand all the dreary hours, or to lie down in the mire. They were ready to sink from excessive fatigue, when, on a sudden, late in the starless night, some of the Massachusetts men and Baxter's Zouaves spontaneously broke out with the soul-stirring strains of the Coronation Anthem. It was sublime. It inspired us with new life, and for a time we forgot our dismal plight. There are in our two flanking zouave companies quite a number of young men of the Hebrew faith, and I was glad to see that they shared in the enthusiasm, and did not reject its revivifying influences because of the significant language, "All hail the power of Jesus' name." It is another evidence that our men, as soldiers, are animated by a common purpose, and united by a common bond of sympathy, "slaves to no code or creed confined." It reminded me of that sad evening of Ball's Bluff when we all devoutly kneeled on the towpath of the canal to receive Father Dillon's blessing. I never heard that any one hesitated to kneel because the good old man was a Roman Catholic.

Wednesday, May 7th. Franklin's Division from Gen. McDowell's corps, and Porter's Division from Heintzelman's Corps, went up the York river yesterday, and we are to follow

to-day, Sedgwick's Division being temporarily detached from Sumner's corps to assist in intercepting the retreat of the rebels toward Richmond. Our success at Williamsburg, we learn, has been far beyond what was at first reported. While the transports are loading, we have time to look about this antiquated town with its quaint buildings, its grave yard and tombstones over two hundred years old, and what interests us most of all, the revolutionary earthworks still standing. In examining the Confederate fortifications, whose extent and massiveness is worth a trip across the Atlantic to see, we step as if on glass, or on the brink of a precipice, every now and then discovering one of the little red fuses thickly planted by rebel barbarity. In the course of our perigrinations we call upon an old friend, Van Alen of the Cavalry, now Military Governor of Yorktown, and he informs us that one of the sanguinary wretches who assisted in placing the torpedoes, and who knows their location, has been taken prisoner, and that he will be compelled to dig them up.

West Point, at the junction of two streams which form the York river, is twenty five miles above Yorktown. On our arrival we learned that Franklin's Division had a sharp contest with the rebels, and that had it not been for the timely arrival of his batteries, and the effective assistance of the gunboats, he might have suffered a serious reverse. As it happened, the rebs were routed, and are now escaping to the defences of Richmond in quick time. We expect to follow in due season either by way of North Kent Court House, or Cumberland landing.

Wednesday, May 14th. We are still quietly encamped at Eltham on the Pamunky river. We have had a good rest and have received our letters and papers regularly. Our mess was on the broad grin to-day over an official report of the engagement at Williamsburg. It was full of transparent applause of certain favorites, and either ignored or damned with faint praise those who were outside the charmed circle. One of the most grandiloquent passages was in reference to a charge upon a line of entrenchments, which was represented to have been immeas-

urably superb and brilliant. Of course, this fancy statement will pass into history, whereas the truth is that all the resistance the charging squadrons met at that point was from seventeen sick men who had been left behind by the rebels. And this set us to discussing the materials of which history is made. Walpole, one day after his retirement from the ministry, snubbed his daughter, who had proposed to read some historical work for his amusement, with the impatient remark: "Anything but history, for history must be false." Walpole, as a man of letters, must have been familiar with the ancient saying,

Ὀλβιος ὅστις τῆς ἱστορίας
ἔσχε μαθησιν

(Blessed is he who possesses a knowledge of history.) But he evidently was not inclined to its respectful remembrance. He had so often, in turning the enticing and deceptive leaves with moistened fingers, transferred to his tongue the fragrant but poisonous dew of fiction, that he had become blunted to the perception of the line of demarcation.

How far Walpole's feverish remark will be applicable to the future history of this war is a question for very serious consideration and not a prompting to be scouted at. Wiseacres like to flatter themselves that they know what songs the syrens sang. And so we are apt to fall back complacently upon the voluminous mass of evidence which is accumulating day by day through official reports, and the letters of newspaper correspondents. Undoubtedly, in these respects we are in advance of the past. We are the gainers not only by the carefully recorded messages transmitted over the electric wires, but by the thronging letters which a faithful post conveys to every household in the land, recounting the observations and the experiences of their representatives in the field. Only we are admonished by such egregious favoritism as is displayed in this official report, and by the imaginative facts and overdrawn fictions of sensation sheets like the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, of the possibility that some future Bancroft may unwittingly utter as big falsehoods

about this war as were ever told of Xerxes, or Hannibal, or Richard III, or Andrew Jackson. We must remember that the value of individual testimony is often impaired by the warpings of prejudice, and by those mists which are apt to fade away in the light of distance. Individuals see through media of different refractive power, and, just as before a jury it is better to have the concurrent evidence of two or more witnesses. If I were to say that Gen. A. B. was intoxicated on the battle field, not from the internal evidence arising from the fact that no sober officer would wilfully sacrifice his best men in the barbarous manner in which he impelled them to certain destruction, but from personal observation on the ground, another may bring the rebutters of X, Y and Z. I am bound to confess that X, Y and Z are honorable men. I speak not to disprove what they spoke, and all I can then say is that if A. B. was not drunk, I do not know what alcoholic intoxication is.

We must also recollect that as individual participants in this contest, our attention is chiefly or exclusively occupied by what is transpiring around us, that our vision is necessarily limited to the immediate sphere of operations, that in a line stretching, it may be, for a score of miles, it is always difficult, and often impossible to perceive the mutual relations of movements apparently not co-operative, or even contradictory, and that more especially is one apt to become confused or distracted by the smoke and blaze and dust and roar of battle.

I pass over the incidents of our march from this point, and come to the period of our completion of Sumner's upper bridge over the Chickahominy. This bridge was about three miles above the railroad crossing, and half way between Bottom's bridge—which is a mile lower down the creek—and the outposts of the left wing, which stretched from Fair Oaks Station on the Railroad to Seven Pines on the Williamsburg road.

Saturday, May 31st. This morning we had a visit from the Paymaster, at our camp on Tyler's place, and the different

regiments were successively recalled from the Grape Vine bridge, to which they were giving the finishing touches, in order to be paid off. Soon after dinner we heard the booming of guns in the direction of our advance on the left, and a subsequent summons for reinforcements was followed by marching orders. We supported Kirby's battery as usual. Over the corduroy roads which our boys had constructed, and over the bridge in which they felt a commendable pride, Kirby's horses galloped in fine style, but we found on the other side of the creek some embarrassing morasses through which it was with the greatest difficulty that the guns were dragged. One of them sank to such a depth that it was temporarily abandoned. On we sped, frequently urged to the double quick by those officers who understood the need of exertion to prevent the left wing from being cut off. Between five and six o'clock we arrived on the ground, and found that Casey, whose division formed the advanced guard of Gen. Key's corps had been driven back more than a mile, and that the left wing had been disordered by the repeated onsets of greatly superior numbers, and almost overpowered. We were just in the nick of time. As the left flank of the enemy was endeavoring to cut off Key's exhausted divisions before reinforcements could arrive, Sumner ranged his lines in the open space made by a clearing near the Courteney house, to oppose their advance. As they emerged from the woods only a few yards distant, Kirby's twelve pound Napoleons saluted them at short range with grape and canister, while at the same moment the Chasseurs and Minnesota men who had been concealed behind the fence at the edge of the wood suddenly uprose and poured into them a most galling and destructive fire. Over the prostrate forms of the fallen came desperately rushing on the bravest troops Johnston could send, but the relentless Kirby swept them down as with a scythe. Again they tried it, this time the Hampton Legion,—but the havoc made by the rapid discharges of five Napoleons was so overwhelming that they fled in confusion, followed by our boys, who pursued them at the point of the bayonet as far as the railroad,

when night closed the combat. Thus, most fortunately, by a timely arrival on the field were we enabled to convert a disaster into a victory.

Of course, the medical officers had a busy night of it. There was surgery *ad infinitum*, and though they worked faithfully till the dawn of the Sabbath morning, there were still hundreds claiming their attention when the roar of musketry in the direction of Seven Pines announced the resumption of active hostilities. All morning the battle raged fiercely, but we had no fear of the result, and worked away as if it were already decided, the wounded of both sides claiming at our hands the attention due to a common humanity. Among those who were placed on our operating table was Gen. Howard, whose right elbow joint had been shattered by a Minie ball. After removing the arm, and allowing the influence of the chloroform to pass off, we found him more solicitous about the propriety of his conduct than the loss of his arm. He had witnessed the queer antics and heard the maudlin expressions of others during the first stage of the anaesthetic effect, and when assured that he had cut no capers but had gone quietly to sleep, he appeared to be relieved of a weight that was more distressful than the privation he had just suffered. Soon after, the smoke of the conflict cleared away, and we were rejoicing over a decisive triumph.

In the afternoon I stole away for an hour from the work of sawing bones, extracting bullets, and setting fractures, to ride over the battle field. In one spot, in the direct range of Kirby's iron hail, counted thirty graybacks piled up within a space of about eighteen feet square. They were in all imaginable postures, most of them with the right arm extended in the act of drawing the ramrod. The weather being exceedingly hot, two long trenches were already in course of excavation. The dead were laid in them side by side, in the one, the blue coats, in the other, the gray, as fast as they could be removed,

"No useless coffins enclosed their breasts,
Nor in sheet, nor in shroud we wound them,"

though here and there some tender-hearted private would take his own blanket and wrap it around the body of a fallen comrade.

Saturday, June 7th. Sent off the last installment of our wounded to the General Hospitals, and hope to have a little rest and recuperation. Dressing wounds night and day for a week of this hot weather, enfeebled with chronic diarrhoea, and nearly famished up to the period when we were driven to a trial of the efficacy of mule soup and mule steaks, we are pretty well used up. That frightful storm of Sunday night which swelled the Chickahominy to a flood and washed away our pet bridge in common with other crossings, not only cut us off from our commissary stores and hospital supplies, but would have seriously endangered our position had we not routed the enemy so completely. From scouts and prisoners and Richmond papers we learn that our victory at Seven Pines was of vastly greater consequence than was at first presumed. It is even whispered that Gen. Joe Johnston was badly wounded, that his scattered columns hurried back to Richmond in a disorganized and panic-stricken mass, and that if McClellan had followed up his advantage as he should have done, we would all have been in Richmond on Sunday evening.

Tuesday, June 10th. After being shifted about from one locality to another we are finally to squat plump in a swamp near the railroad. The mud is several inches deep since the rain, but we hope it will dry off after awhile. As there are no springs near, we shall have to drink surface water. Of course, we shall get sick, but protest is unavailing. The only time I ever came near being placed in arrest was after remonstrating with the General for camping us in a marsh. When the engineers run their lines they are no respecters of hygienic conditions. The Union lines are now in the form of a V, the point of the angle being nearest Richmond, and Sedgwick and Richardson happen to occupy that point.

Saturday, June 14th. Had another ferruginous dose from the rebels this morning. They scatter their iron compliments

around here as if they meant to hurt somebody. One shell burst directly over me, and the pieces arranged themselves in a circumference of which I formed the centre.

Standing in front of my hospital tent with a field officer, who affected a great contempt for the rank and file, a body was brought out of a neighboring hospital for interment. 'I wonder,' said I, 'if that isn't Captain ——' 'No,' he replied, 'it's only a private.' After dinner the tone of that remark rang in my ears, and as I put it in my pipe, the whiffs answered, *Only a private!* "Hath not a Jew eyes, hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer?" Are there not as glistening eyes straining after him as for Captain ——? Are there not as weary hearts yearning for his coming? And when the shadow falls upon the far distant household, will not the gloom be as deep, and the agony as fearful? I am sick of this military cant which draws so broad a line of distinctiveness between men who carry a musket and men who wear a sword. I don't forget that among those who went into the "three month's service," there was a profusion of convicts, paupers and reckless adventurers. But among our men I find no such characters. On the contrary, I find among them a large number whose intelligence, whose patriotism, whose moral and pecuniary worth, and whose social position at home are equal to those of many of their officers, and superior to some of them. With the exception of the chaplain, I am brought by the nature of my relations into closer contact with them than are the rest of the field and staff, and in my visits to the pickets on stormy nights, in my intercourse with the wounded on the battlefield and the sick in the hospital, I have had better opportunities than others of knowing their secret thoughts and feelings, and learning their inner life, and I assert without fear of contradiction that such sterling material never before entered into the composition of the mass of any army on earth. We have a fair sprinkling of bummers, but

instead of demoralizing their betters by their presence, they are only laughed at. As for morale and discipline, our men are unequalled. When officers storm and chew the juice out of all the superlatives of profanity for being ordered to camp in some filthy mire or puddle, no syllable of remonstrance is heard from the men. When officers satirize or stigmatize the government for not sending the Paymaster, the privates simply bear about them a quiet pain, while those who have no suffering families at home make it a subject of jocularly. These are not what Horace meant when he expressed his hatred of the "profanum vulgus." These are not they to whom Burke referred when he spoke of the "swinish multitude." I have read their letters, listened to their tales of home, heard their songs, witnessed their courage in action, admired their fortitude under privation, shared their crusts and their coffee, and received their dying injunctions, and whatever may be the case elsewhere, whatever may have been the fact heretofore, or may be the fact hereafter, these men appreciate their mission, and are earnest in the execution of a high resolve.

Saturday, June 21st. No one pretends to conceal his dissatisfaction with our position and prospects. Besides the physical wear and tear to which we are subjected, our attention is kept on the perpetual strain by the picket-skirmishings continually kept up. We are so close to the enemy that we may be attacked at any moment. Raiding parties keep up a feverish excitement night after night, so that sleep is out of the question. We do not comprehend why, instead of being harassed by these ever recurring alarms, we do not assume the aggressive, and move on to Richmond. One thing is certain, that every hour we are becoming weaker and weaker. Every day half a dozen of my men are either killed or wounded on the picket lines, and a dozen are laid on their backs with malarious fever. At this rate the army is losing its effective strength to the extent of a whole brigade a day. If we had gone to Richmond in the first place, even under the most disadvantageous circumstances, instead of easily crowning by an ad-

vance our triumph at Seven Pines, we could not have lost a tithe of the men who are now melting away under the bullets of treacherous videttes and the consuming fires of fever. We have reason to fear that we are in the position of Capt. Parry's Arctic voyagers who travelled on foot over the ice toward the North Pole at the rate of 10 miles a day, while the ice fields on which they travelled were drifting toward the equator at the rate of 12 miles a day. While we are hourly becoming enfeebled, it may be, for aught we know, that the enemy are gaining strength. It is now a month since the evacuation of Corinth, and it is possible that some of Beauregard's forces may at this moment be confronting us. Then we know that Stonewall Jackson may at any time sweep down from Northern Virginia to strengthen Gen. Lee's left wing and outflank us. I am convinced from the despondent tones of our most intelligent officers that they believe the golden opportunity has flown beyond recovery.

In less than a week after these apprehensions were expressed they were realized. We were outflanked, outwitted, outgeneralled, and we were compelled to effect that famous "change of base," which, if agreeable, will form the materials of a future paper.

GEORGE PEABODY AND HIS SERVICES TO THE STATE.

The following letters of Mr. J. J. Speed, the one to Governor Thomas and the other to Mr. George Peabody, have never been published except in the newspapers of the period, and are here printed as found in the Executive Archives. The letter of Governor Thomas referred to herein, is printed in part in Scharf's *History of Maryland*, Vol. 3, at page 217. A letter of Mr.

Peabody to Mr. J. J. Speed appeared in this *Magazine*, Vol. 3, at page 119.

Baltimore, 13th. Nov., 1848.

His Excellency Philip F. Thomas,
Annapolis.

My dear Sir :

In our hurried interview at Annapolis, two days ago, I had barely time to mention to you that I had received your kind note, with the package for Mr. Peabody and the copy of your admirable letter to him with which you honored me. After that able composition there was little left for me to say to our friend abroad ; but I have attempted something ; and, in return for your courtesy and kindness, permit me to enclose you a copy of it, and allow me to thank you for your consideration and partial regard in selecting me to discharge this pleasing duty.

Tomorrow I will confer with Mr. Peabody's commercial friends here ; and, in a few days, as soon as the columns of the News Papers are relieved from the masses of election statistics with which they are, now, daily encumbered, the papers will be given to the public press, and the originals will then be forwarded to London. This will probably be in four or five days.

I am, my dear Sir, with high consideration and regard,

Your assured friend,

J. J. SPEED.

Baltimore, 13th. Nov., 1848.

To George Peabody, Esquire,
London.

My dear Sir :

The Governor of Maryland, referring, I presume, to my late correspondence with you on several public topics, has chosen to make me the instrument of transmitting to you the Resolutions of the Legislature, passed at its late session, tendering you the thanks of the Government for your effective zeal and prominent

agency in upholding the honor of the State, in its late afflictions, in a foreign land, and in presenting its integrity, in true lights, to foreign minds. When you reflect that these Resolutions convey the thanks of a Sovereign State—one of those that laid the foundations of this Republic—for services rendered her reputation abroad, you will not fail to prize the distinction, but will, I know, regard it with the emotion it is so well calculated to awaken. In social life, we are often assured, there is no higher impulse than that which prompts us to shield from accusation the good name of an absent friend; and the charities of our nature are never more beautifully displayed than when employed in covering the blemishes of those with whom we are connected by kindred ties; but the love of country is a nobler passion; the impulses of patriotism are nobler emotions; and what prouder political duty can the citizen discharge than that of upholding, in a foreign land, the good name of his country till truth shall come to rescue its impugned reputation. I must confess I should covet it before the lustre of arms, the achievements of war, the triumphs of ambition or any of the more captivating successes of genius. And it is your felicity, Sir, to be in the position I thus contemplate; and your happiness, moreover, to be assured that your country fully appreciates your services. In this instance, most certainly, the Resolutions of the Legislature fulfil the theory of Representative assemblies;—they give utterance to the popular voice and true expression to the popular sentiment, and I need scarcely refer to the perfect unison that exists between the sentiments of the Legislature and those of the Governor in regard to your services. His Excellency's letter to you, with a copy of which he has honored me, speaks very fully for itself on this head.

Repudiation is stricken down in Maryland, and will continue motionless. In other parts of the confederacy it is sinking back into those gloomy abodes of bad minds and vulgar breasts where it was engendered, and which, as harbours and refuges of vice, unhappily for mankind, exist in all countries. This great monitor, after all, is a sound public sense; and this is awakened, in Maryland, in its most formidable power. I am happy to report to you

that our revenue laws are even more effective and fruitful than we had hoped for them. The amounts returned into the Treasury and the steadiness of the collections have gone beyond the public expectation. This, while it denotes diligence and fidelity in the administration of the laws, proves also that which is before all and above all and our chiefest pride—a devoted willingness on the part of the taxpayer. It is not the Government that is paying this debt—it is the noble hearted people of Maryland. They, themselves, have spontaneously enacted the laws under which these great contributions are drawn into the Treasury; and their willing response to the tax gatherer, at their doors, carries out in practice the enlightened and just spirit of their legislation.

Permit me, in conclusion, to assure you of the gratification it has afforded me to have been selected as the medium of a communication so creditable to the Legislature and honorable to yourself. The spirit that has prompted these resolutions is worthy of the enviable relations in which you stand to us, and I feel a pride in believing that, generous and disinterested as have been your efforts, they have been most fully met by the sensibility they have excited and the just appreciation in which they are held by every citizen of Maryland.

I pray you to believe me, as always,

Most faithfully yours,

J. J. SPEED.

THE LAST BLOODSHED OF THE REVOLUTION.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN WILMOT OF THE MARYLAND LINE.

FRANCIS B. CULVER.

In planning their campaign for the year 1778, the British placed their principal hope of success in conquering the Southern states, but they were not able to attempt the execution of their

design until late in the year. On December 29, Savannah was taken and the remnant of the American army was driven into South Carolina.

In December, 1779, Sir Henry Clinton, with 7000 men, set sail from New York for the South, arriving at Tybee Island, in the vicinity of Savannah, the last of January, 1780. On the tenth of the following month he sailed for Charleston, S. C., landing within thirty miles of the city, and took possession of John's Island and Stono Ferry, and afterwards of Wappoo Cut and James Island, while a part of his army took post on the banks of the Ashley river, opposite Charleston. His forces were soon augmented by 1200 troops from Savannah.

General Lincoln, of the American army, had used every measure to put Charleston in a position of defence, in anticipation of the siege which was commenced on the first of April, but he was forced, after a stubborn resistance, to capitulate to the enemy on the twelfth of May, 1780.

With Charleston in his possession, Clinton proceeded to establish the royal government in South Carolina, in which undertaking he met with such success, apparently, that he returned to New York, leaving Lord Cornwallis in charge of the Southern forces.

The insolence of the British troops in the Carolinas soon became intolerable to the inhabitants and several desultory parties were formed, conspicuous among these being the organizations led by Marion and Sumter, to harass the enemy at every opportunity.

The military operations at this period of the war were mainly confined to the South under the conduct of General Gates and later, of General Greene, who superseded Gates.

The battles near Camden, at the Cowpens, at Guilford Court-house, Hobkirk's Hill, the Eutaws, etc., followed with varying results to the American cause, leading up to the grand *finale* of the war in the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, October 19, 1781.

In nearly all of these battles and engagements the troops of the Maryland Line played a prominent and honorable part, and the never-to-be-forgotten names of General Mordecai Gist and Otho

H. Williams, of the Line, and of Colonel John Gunby and Lt.-Col. John Eager Howard, of the 2nd Maryland regiment, stand out preëminently in the annals of those times.

Following the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, the Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia Continentals were sent to reinforce General Greene, who continued in the South.

A strong detachment was provided, under General Gist, to cover the country lying to the south and west of the main army's position, known as the district of the Combahee.

"The cavalry of the legion, and that of the 3d and 4th Virginia regiments, united under Colonel Baylor : the infantry of the legion, the dismounted dragoons of the 3rd regiment, the Delaware regiment and one hundred men detached from the Line and commanded by Major Beall : the whole infantry under Colonel Laurens, formed the brigade placed under the command of General Gist." (Johnson's *Life of Gen. Greene*.)

Says Scharf: "On November 18th, 1781, General Greene struck his tents on the hills of Santee and pushed towards Dorchester, about fifteen miles northwest of Charleston, Colonel Stewart falling back before him. When near Goose Creek bridge, about eight miles from Dorchester, Greene placed his main army under Colonel Williams with instructions to continue the march southward, while he, with a detachment of the Maryland and Virginia infantry and a portion of Lee's and [Col. William] Washington's cavalry made an effort to capture the garrison of 850 men in charge of Dorchester. Intelligence of his movements having been communicated to the enemy, they destroyed their stores, etc., and retreated in all haste to Charleston. On December 7, Williams, with the main army, halted at Round O, where he was joined on the 9th by General Greene : and on January 4, 1782, St. Clair and Wayne, with the Pennsylvania and Maryland troops, overtook them after a long and weary march. On July 11, the enemy evacuated Savannah, the regulars going to Charleston and the loyalists, under Brown, taking refuge in Florida.

"Late in August, the enemy sent out a foraging fleet from

Charleston to collect provisions, and General Gist, with his brigade, composed of the cavalry of Lee's legion, the 3rd and 4th Virginia regiments united under Colonel Baylor: the infantry of the legion: the dismounted dragoons of the 3rd regiment: the Delaware battalion and 100 men detached from the Maryland Line, commanded by Major Beall, was ordered immediately out to protect the Combahee district.

"On August 27, Colonel Laurens, who was hastening to join him, met the enemy and in a slight skirmish was killed.

"General Gist, anticipating the damage to which Laurens was exposed, marched to his relief and compelled the enemy to embark with slight loss. As soon as the enemy crossed the bar of Beaufort harbor, General Gist moved back to reinforce the main army and his brigade was not again engaged during the war."

This engagement of August 27, 1782, on the Combahee river, South Carolina, was the last conflict of the American Revolution which the historians of that period record.

"Captain Wilmot, with a small command, still continued to cover John's Island¹ and to watch the passage by the Stono, and his love of enterprise led him, occasionally, to cross the river and harass, or watch the enemy on James' Island.

"In one of these adventures, undertaken in conjunction with Kosciuszko, against a party of the enemy's wood-cutters on the 14th of November [1782], he fell into an ambuscade, was himself shot dead, and Lieutenant Moore, his second in command, and a servant, severely wounded and made prisoners.

*"This was the last bloodshed in the American War."*²

William Wilmot was born in Baltimore County, Md., about the year 1752, and was one of nine children of Robert, Sr., and Sarah (Merryman) Wilmot.

¹ One of the Sea Islands chain or group in Charleston county, S. C., just south of Charleston.

² Johnson's *Life of General Nathaniel Greene*, vol. II, page 345. See also McCrady's *South Carolina in the Revolution*, vol. 3, p. 667; Ramsay's *Hist. of the Revolution of South Carolina*, etc., vol. 2. p. 375.

Robert Wilmot, the father, was the fifth child of John Wilmot, Jr. (died 1748), by his wife Rachel Owings (died 1761), and a grandson of John Wilmot (died 1719), of Baltimore County, and Jane, his wife.

Robert Wilmot, Sr., married in St. Paul's parish, Baltimore County, on December 15, 1748, Sarah Merryman, daughter of John, Jr., and Sarah (Rogers) Merryman, and by this marriage he had five sons and four daughters, namely: John, William, Robert, Richard and Benjamin; Sarah, who married Benjamin Talbott; Eleanor, who married a Bowen; Ruth, who married a Bowen, and Mary Wilmot.

The Wilmots were connected with the Cromwells, the Merrymans, the Talbotts, the Towsons, the Owingses and other prominent old Baltimore County families.

Robert Wilmot, Sr., died October 12, 1773, leaving the homestead, called "Rachel's Prospect," to his eldest son John, and a tract of 100 acres, called "Snake Den," in Baltimore County, together with a lot or parcel of ground in Westminster Town, Md., to his son William.

When the Revolutionary war broke out, William and a younger brother, Robert, embraced the patriot cause and were, at an early date, recommended for commissions in the Maryland militia.

Robert was appointed 3rd lieutenant in a Baltimore Artillery Company, Nov. 5, 1776; promoted 2nd lieutenant, June 5, 1777; promoted 1st lieutenant of Dorsey's Company of Maryland Artillery, Nov. 24, 1777, and served in the Continental Artillery from May 30, 1778, to the close of the war.

William Wilmot was appointed by the Council of Safety, on Aug. 5, 1776, ensign in Capt. Zachariah Maccubbin's Company, of Col. Josias Carvel Hall's battalion of Maryland militia, for the Flying Camp, and was active in the enrolling of recruits for the service.

On December 10, 1776, he was commissioned 1st lieutenant of Capt. Benjamin Brookes' Company, 3rd Maryland Regiment, under the command of Colonel Mordecai Gist, and was promoted to a captaincy in the same regiment, on October 15, 1777.

He was transferred, January 1, 1781, to the 2nd Maryland Regiment, then commanded by Colonel John Gunby, with Lieut.-Col. John Eager Howard, as second in command.

His name appears in a service record showing service between August 1, 1780, and January 1, 1782, and, again, between January 1, 1782 and January 1, 1783. In a payroll for pay due non-commissioned officers and privates of the Maryland Line from January 1, 1782 to January 1, 1783, his company is styled as the 1st company, 4th battalion. His death is referred to in *Archives of Maryland*, vol. 18, p. 479.

In the early fall of 1782, Captain Wilmot commanded a party of observation, attached to the camp of the Southern army, located at Ashley Hill, on the Ashley river, about ten miles from Charleston.

His post was upon John's Island, near Charleston, where he kept in close touch with all the plans and movements of the enemy within the town.

As a soldier, he was fearless, ambitious and fond of adventure, and the very qualities which secured for him promotion in the military calling were destined to be the means of his final undoing.

On November 14, 1782, just one month prior to the evacuation of Charleston by the British, Kosciuszko suggested to Captain Wilmot and Lieutenant Moore, of the Maryland Line, the fatal enterprise of crossing over to James Island for the purpose of surprising a party of the enemy's wood-cutters from Fort Johnson. A negro who furnished information to the Americans participating in this adventure is believed to have been sent as a decoy to lead them into an ambushade. At any rate, the enemy was well prepared for the "surprise" and poured into the little party so deadly a fusillade that Captain Wilmot was killed instantly, while Lieutenant Moore, with others, was left on the field covered with wounds. Kosciuszko escaped injury, although his weapon was shattered in his hand and his coat pierced by four balls.

Young Wilmot was buried by the British with all the honors of war, having achieved the unique distinction of being the last to shed his life's blood in an engagement between American and British troops during the Revolution.

A LETTER FROM THE SOUTH.¹

Southern Army, Ashley Hill,
September 26th, 1782.

Dear Sir—

I do myself the pleasure to give you a short account of the present situation of the two armies in this quarter—with their principal manoeuvres since the capture of Lord Cornwallis. Shortly after which, General Greene advanced, crossing the Wateree and Santee, to Colo. Thompson's, when the General, with the light troops, made an attempt to surprise the enemy's post at Dorchester. They being apprised of his approach, reinforced that post and sallied out about two miles, when we fell in with them and drove them to the fort, leaving a small number of their killed and wounded on our hands. General Leslie, by a rapid march from Fair Lawn, formed a junction at the Quarter House that night with those from Dorchester. General Greene took post about thirty miles west of them, on a small but pleasant eminence, where he quartered the winter.

Early in the spring an unsuccessful attempt was made to get on John's Island, to attack the enemy's camp—which they discovered, and left the island in the greatest precipitation, leaving horses, cattle, provisions, etc., all which fell into our hands.

General Wayne, with Col. Baylor's regiment of cavalry, marched January last to Savannah, when he was shortly after joined by Col. Posey's regiment of infantry from Virginia, which enabled him to confine the enemy to their garrison till July, at which time they evacuated that post—disposing the troops in the following manner: Sending 400 to New York, 300 to C[harles] Town, and 50 to Augustine. Early in the spring, General O'Hara, with a sufficient number of empty transports from New York, came to the place and took away with him 1110 British troops for Jamaica, upon which the enemy demolished their exterior works, and contracted their lines. Previous to which, General Greene took post ten miles from town, on the south side of the Ashley river, where he still remains. General Marion,

¹ See "Papers relating to the Maryland Line," ed. by Thos. Balch, p. 194.

with a considerable body of State cavalry and some infantry, is thirty miles northeast from Charlestown.

General Gist, commanding the light infantry, covers the right flank of the army. The disorders incidental in this country rage with more violence this summer than usual, and the two armies are hourly diminished by them.

The Assembly of the State has raised near two hundred men during the war, and their recruiting officers meet with success.

North Carolina has raised 1200 eighteen months men who remain still in that State. Congress will not give credit for any troops raised for less than three years, or during the war.

General Leslie has ordered all officers and other persons concerned, to be in perfect readiness to embark by the ninth of October. But I hear, from good authority, he does not expect to evacuate this post till some time in the winter, having only seventeen transports here, and fifty-seven at New York, which are not yet ordered to the Southward.

A gentleman arrived in town yesterday from York, who says that an expedition is going on against the French troops at Boston, under the command of Carleton, with twenty sail of the Line, and four thousand troops from New York.

Colonel Lawrence [Laurens], with forty-five men, in charging two hundred and fifty of the enemy, was shot dead with four of his men—thirteen were wounded, including two officers, which are all saved.

General Gist has since taken one of their gallies, mounting two nine pounders.

I am honored with the command of a party of observation, and have several capital spies in town, who furnish me, from time to time, with every interesting intelligence, accurate returns of their army, and sick in hospital, etc.

The spirit of mutiny has, at two different times, made alarming appearances among our troops, but at present seems to have subsided.¹

¹One of these instances, doubtless, is referred to by McCrady: "The captains and subalterns of the Pennsylvania Line were offended because Captain Wilmot of the Maryland Line, had been put in charge of a critical service, and undertook to remonstrate against it and discuss with the General the propriety of the detail."

Every possible preparation for an embarkation has already taken place. All their foot-artillery, stores, etc., are on board the seventeen transports that are here. We hear there is a new arrangement of the army, which it is said will shortly take place here.

Please make my compliments to Major Brooke, Clagett, Freeman, Williams, Sellman, Bruce, Denny, and all the other old officers in that quarter.

I am, Dear Sir, with the highest sentiments of friendship and esteem,

Yours sincerely,

W. WILMOT.

P. S.—Captain Bird, of our line, is dead—September 30. A fleet of transports arrived yesterday from New York, to take off the garrison. Frazer's, Brown's, and some other new corps are going to Augusta. General Gist has been very ill, but is now recovering.

General Smallwood.

THE WILL OF CAPTAIN WILMOT.¹

In the name of God, Amen. I William Wilmot of Baltimore County and State of Maryland . . . being at this time called to the defence of my Country, do hereby make this my last Will and Testament. . . . Item. I give and bequeath unto my Brother Robert Wilmot . . . one tract of land lying in Baltimore County called Snake Den containing one Hundred acres, also one Lot of Land lying in Winchester² Town, Frederick County. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sister Sarah Talbott . . . the Sum of Twenty five pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sister Eleanor Bowen . . . the Sum of Twenty five pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sister Ruth Wilmot . . . the Sum of One Hundred pounds and my young Horse three years old.

¹ Baltimore County Wills, Liber C, folio 555.

² Now Westminster, Carroll County.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Brother Richard Wilmot . . . Seventy five Pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Brother Benjamin Wilmot . . . the Sum of Seventy five pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sister Mary Wilmot . . . the Sum of One Hundred pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sister [in law] Ann Wilmot, wife to my brother John, my Rideing mare. Item. I give and bequeath unto my brother Robert Wilmot above named . . . one negro boy named Will and also one negro Woman named Judah, she and her Increase. Whereas the principal part of my Personal Estate Consists in Certificates from the State of Maryland my Will and desire is, that the Legacies mentioned in this Will, shall be paid off with the money arising therefrom when received, and whereas my aforesaid Brother Robert at this time belongs to the Continental Army and may from the fortune of War, fall before he disposes of what I have hereby bequeathed him, and in such case my Will and desire is that my brother Richard Wilmot . . . should Inherit the tract of land called Snake Den and the negro boy called Will, and that my Brother Benjamin Wilmot . . . should inherit the Lot of land lying in Winchester's Town, Frederick [County], and also the negro Woman named Judah and her Increase. All of which I have bequeathed to my aforesaid Brother Robert. I do nominate, constitute and appoint my brother in law Benjamin Talbott to be Executor of this my last Will and Testament . . . Twenty First day of June, one Thousand seven hundred & eighty one.¹

WILLIAM WILMOT. [SEAL.]

Witnesses :

John Merryman,
Sarah Merryman,
Ruthy Gill.

¹ Date of Probate, May 27, 1783.

AN ALPHABETICAL RECORD OF THE ARRIVAL OF
SHIPS IN THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND FROM
THE FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1634 TO 1679.

Compiled from the original records at Annapolis, Md., by

MRS. GEORGE WASHINGTON HODGES.

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC. April 6, 1675. Lib. 15, fol. 397.
Capt. John Jones.

ADVENTURE OF HULL. In the year 1665-1667. Lib. 8,
fol. 40; Lib. 10, fol. 568, 571.

AGREEMENT. 1664. Lib. 9, fol. 435; Lib. 10, fol. 569.
Commander Christopher Birkett.

ARK. 1634. Lib. A. B. H., fol. 244.

BALTIMORE. 1668. Lib. 12, fol. 190.

BATCHLOR. 1674. Lib. 18, fol. 152. List of 90 servants
of Bristol.

CICILIUS. 1677. Lib. 15, fol. 416, 581.

CONSTANT FRIENDSHIP. 1666. Lib. 9, fol. 436; Lib. 11,
fol. 375; Lib. 12, fol. 215.

DARTMOUTH MERCHANT. 1669. Lib. 12, fol. 215.

ELIAS. 1669. Lib. 12, fol. 333.

ENCREASE. 1678. Lib. 20, fol. 184. (Came out of Ire-
land.) Phill Poplestone, Master (list given in full).

FRANCIS AND MARY. 1668. Liber 11, fol. 338; Lib. 12,
fol. 194. Wm. Wathen, Master.

FRIENDSHIP. 1666. Lib. 12, fol. 215. Of London. Ralph
Stoney (Commander).

FRIENDSHIP. 1668. Lib. 11, fol. 379; Lib. 12, 215. Of
London. Capt. Christopher Miller.

GLOBE OF LONDON. April 25th, 1679. Lib. 20, fol. 185.
Samuel Groome the younger, Commander.

GOLDEN FORTUNE. 1670. Lib. J. J., fol. 99. Of London. Captain Edward Pearce.

GOLDEN LYON. 1664. Lib. 5, fol. 211; Lib. 9, fol. 435.

GOLDEN WHEAT SHEAF. 1662-1664. Lib. 5, fol. 211; Lib. 9, fol. 332, 354, 435, 437; Lib. 11, fol. 440.

HOPEWELL. Oct., 1665. Lib. F. F., fol. 207. Of King Sale. Capt. John Gilson.

JOHN AND CHRISTIAN. Oct. 30th, 1668. Of Bristol, England. Lib. 11, fol. 378, 541. William Bonner, Mate.

JOHN OF TOPSHAM. Lib. 16, fol. 79. John Basse, Commander. 25th Oct., 1670. From New Castle upon Tyne.

KING SOLOMON. 1663. Lib. 9, fol. 354.

MARYLAND MERCHANT. 1668. Lib. 11, fol. 319; Lib. 15, fol. 332. Peter Wraxall, Master.

MERCHANT ADVENTURE. 1635. Lib. A. B. C., fol. 77.

NIGHTINGALE CATCH. Of Hull. 1669. Lib. 13, fol. 1.

NIGHTINGALE OF YORK. 1668. Lib. 11, fol. 581, 582.

PRIMROSE. Full list. Lib. and fol. not given.

PROSPEROUS. 1674. Lib. 18, fol. 166. Of Newcastle. Capt. Partis.

PROVIDENCE. Of Bristol. 1666. Lib. 10, fol. 407; Lib. 11, fol. 338, 538.

RAPPAHANOCK MERCHANT. Dec. 4th, 1677. Lib. 15, fol. 520. Of London. Robt. Gowland, Commander.

RICHARD AND MARTHA. 1673. Lib. 15, fol. 322.

RINE OF LIVERPOOL. 1678, 1679. Lib. 15, fol. 598.

ST. GEORGE. 1678. Lib. 15, fol. 553. Capt. George Quigley, of London.

SOCIETY OF BRISTOL. 1668. Lib. 11, fol. 343. John England, Master, England.

SOLOMON. 1663-1664. Lib. 9, fol. 354, 437.

SUBMISSION. 1669. Lib. J. J., fol. 42. 70 tons.

SUPPLY OF WHITT. April 26th, 1669. Lib. 12, fol. 334. Thomas Pieghen, Master.

SUSANNE. 1664. Lib. 9, fol. 434. Of London. Wm. Godlad, Com.

THOMAS AND MARY. 1667. Lib. 11, fol. 265 ; Lib. 12, fol. 190. Thomas Harwood, Master.

THOMAS AND GEORGE. 1666. Lib. 9, fol. 436.

TRUE LOVE. 1668. Lib. 11, fol. 318. Of Bristoll. John Linch, Master.

UNITY. 1637. Lib. 1, fol. 17. Of Isle of Wight.

VIRGINIA FACTOR. 1674. Lib. 15, fol. 322.

WILLIAM AND MARY. 1668-1669. Lib. 12, fol. 215. Samuel Groome, Commander.

BATTLE OF BLADENSBURG.

The dearth of official documents concerning the battle of Bladensburg makes these fragmentary orders and despatches worthy of publication. The return of the rifle battalion made when the invaders were already on the way to Washington, shows the neglect of the responsible heads. Probably the unarmed 2d and 5th companies were never supplied with arms, as but three companies are listed in the "Citizen Soldiers" and those the ones mentioned below. These papers are from a collection of military documents presented to the Society by Mr. J. Stricker Bradford, a grandson of General Stricker.

Return of the effective men composing the Rifle battalion :

Captain Dyer's Co.	70	rank	and	file
" Aisquith's	55	"	"	"
" Bayder's	60	"	"	"

185

1 Major
 3 Captains
 9 Lieutenants
 1 Adjutant
 1 Quarter Master

1 Sergeant Major
 1 Quarter Master Sergeant
 1 Surgeon
 1 Paymaster

19 commiss'd and staff officers.

The 2d and 5th companies are at present unarmed and can be sent to Washington by Wednesday next if they are immediately furnished with rifles and equipment. These 2 companies will make an addition to the battallion of 120 men.

August 20th. 1814. WM. PINKNEY,
 Major 1st. Battⁿ of Riflemen.

Return of Equipments &c. necessary for the Rifle Corps :

Captain Bayder will require	40 Knapsacks	
" " " "	65 Canteens	
" Aisquith " "	60 Powder Horns	{ bespoke at Linville
" " " "	60 Canteens	
" Dyer " "	75 Canteens	
Total	40 Knapsacks	
	200 Canteens	
	60 Powder Horns	

Aug. 20th 1814 WM. PINKNEY,
 Major 1st Battⁿ Riflemen

Camp Elk Ridge Landing
 22 Aug^t 1814

Sir

I have been delayed on my march at this place by the Deficiency of our Equipment. This will be remedied very soon & I shall be ready to move in any Direction the movements of the Enemy may render necessary. The Delay has caused no Injury to the Public Service & by Direction of Gen^l Winder I shall halt

at M^cCoy's for further orders or until a more full Disclosure of the Enemy's Designs shall justify my acting according to the Discretion he has vested in me.

I request you to keep me advised of every material event that ought to influence my conduct & address me at M^cCoys until otherwise informed. The men are all in high spirits & thus far afford me Satisfaction. I have the honor to be very respectfully

Your humb. S^t

JOSEPH STERETT L. C. 5 M. R.

Brigadier Gen^l Stricker, Baltimore.

Endorsed.

Orders to march immediately have this moment arrived. We are striking our Tents & shall depart in 15 minutes. 15 m. past 11 A. M. By order of Col. S.

RD. K. HEATH Major.

Aug. 24th 1814

M^cCoys 13 miles from Balt^o & 1st

Telegraphic Station from Balt^o.

11 A. M. Wednesday

Dear Gen^l

I send this by Jn^o Howard, who states that Winder has fallen back on Washington & that his position at the old Fields was occupied by the enemy yesterday. Stansbury's Brigade & the 5th Reg^t left Ross' this morning at 2 A. M. for Washington. 60 of Sterrett Ridgley's squadron it is supposed joined Winder last night. The enclosed will thank you to have delivered as directed.

I am with resp^t Dear Gen^l Your ob^t Serv^t

Howard left Ross' this morning.

R. PATTERSON

Director of the Telegraphic Station at M^cCoys.

Brig^d Gen^l Stricker, Baltimore

Ross Tavern 24th Aug^t 1814. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 P. M.

Sir

Agreeably to your Orders of yesterday I proceeded this day to Gen^l Winders Head Quarters, after posting Videttes upon the Rout and upon descending the Hill to Bladensburg I distinctly saw the British advancing up the Valley, the Americans being Posted on the right of Bladensburg about half a Mile distant, where I found Gen^l Winder and delivered your Letter at One o'Clock after perusing it, he observed, "You see our situation, place two or three communicative Men near my Person, by whom I can communicate *verbally*, to Gen^l Stricker the result of our engagement, which is momentarily expected, & you may return to your command in Baltimore."

I left an Officer and three Men and immediately retired, but had scarcely cross'd the Bridge, before the British were descending Lowndes Hill, and I was within 300 yards of their advanc'd Party, who never Halted, but continued over the Bridge up the Washington Road. Our Artillery commenc'd firing at $\frac{1}{2}$ past one o'Clock, while the British were entering Bladensburg, & in five minutes was return'd by Rockets only, the effect of which I could plainly distinguish, and did not see one to strike the American lines, as the British advanc'd up the Road from Bladensburg, our Lines began to retire & when out of my view, I hastend here to give this information.

You will probably receive another dispatch in the Night & I shall wait upon you very early in the morning to communicate such further information as my observations enabled me to make. I saw very few Mounted Men, & only one Piece of Artillery crossed the Bridge during my stay.

The urgency of this intelligence, will justify my requesting to be excused for such a hasty letter.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Very Respectfully Your ob^t Serv^t

HENRY THOMPSON.

Brig Gen^l Stricker.

Videttes near Bladensburg
 Aug. 24th. 1814 $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 o'Clock

Capt. Thompson left us on the hill above Bladensburg at two o'Clock—within five minutes after the British ceased crossing the Bridge—within ten minutes after the British, who answered their fire till after they mounted the hill, as well as the Americans were out of our sight. The firing ceased, excepting a single gun at great intervals at half after two o'Clk. at 23 min^{ts} past two a very small detachment of the British repassed the Bridge. A considerable detachment was stationed at the Mill, which had not left there a quarter past three o'Clk. at which time we left there. A man out of Bladensburg reports that the Enemys privates were dressed in blue. Bladensburg has not been as yet injured in the least.

B. W. HALL
 RICH^d F. STOCKTON

Washington $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3

The British have driven us from Bladensb^g. Some kill'd & wounded on both sides. We have retreated to Washington. Steretts regiment behaved very well. Y^e

J. E. HOWARD J^r

Capt. Thompson

copied from my Pocket Book
 GEO BURR GRUNDY

Aug. 25, 1814
 Thursday 9 A. M.
 M^cCoys

Dear Sir,

Lieu^t Hollingsworth has this moment come in ; he reports that at 5 o'Clock last evening near Washington, that he was directed by D^r Thomas to proceed to Frederick Town & that Gen^l Winder had desired him to order all the horse there as he intended to fall back there with his troops. We have no Videtts beyond this

place, our men & horses are all exhausted. The communication between Washington & Ross' is completely cut off. Your best mode of obtaining intelligence from Winder, or the city must be thro' Montgomery County.

I am respectfully Your obed^t Serv^t

R. PATTERSON.

P. S. It might perhaps be advisable to keep up the communication between Ross' & this, if this should be your opinion some fresh horsmen should relieve Thompson's Corps. If you wish I will remain here.—R.

D^r Thomas is attached to Sterrett Ridgley's Squadron of Horse. Brig. Gen^l Stricker, Baltimore.

Aug. 25th 1814

McCoys Tavern $\frac{1}{2}$ after 12 o'Clock
Thursday Morning.

I left Vanhorns about 8 o'Clock when on the Road to McCoys Tavern an hour after I heard two or three heavy Explosions, it was considered by the Company with me as a Renewal of the Engagement but in a little Time a Light appeared in the Horizon in the Direction of the City of Washington which encreased until the Smoke and Flame were distinctly seen this Light continues to encrease to the present Hour & I have no doubt but that the British are burning the public Buildings at Washington.

JAMES CARROLL

From the report of several Horseman come in during the night, who left our party after the defeat at Bladensburg, it seems they fled mostly on the Montgomery road, some stragglers of our army are progressing this way

12 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'Clock

R. PATTERSON

Brig^r Gen^l Stricker, Baltimore

Endorsed: Vidette at McCoys; $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 o'clock at night.
August 25, 1814.

Vidette at McCoys

Aug. 25th 3 P. M.

McCoys 3 P. M.

Sir,

A very heavy firing of cannon is at present heard here in the direction of Washington. It was first noticed at about 10 minutes after 2 o'Clock. The last intelligence from Washington was about 8 o'Clock this morning. Winder had fallen back on Washington & burnt the Bridge over the Eastern Branch.

I am respectfully

R. PATTERSON.

Brig^r Gen^l Stricker &
Major Gen^l Smith, Baltimore.

Headquarters Montgomery C HouseAug. 25th 1814

Sir

I send home all the Baltimore Militia that are still here. You will organize and rearrange them in the best possible manner. I shall assemble the largest possible force I can here and make such movements as I think may be necessary to preserve Baltimore should Pennsylvania troops arrive you will direct them to halt at Baltimore. If there should be no officer of higher rank than yourself you will take the command of the whole & organize and arrange them in the best possible manner for defending that point and you will cooperate with & second any officer who may be senior or superior to you. The times demand the utmost exertion. I shall shew the utmost force I can upon which it much depends whether the enemy will not proceed directly to Baltimore.

Yours in haste

W^m H. WINDER,Brig. Gen^l Com^r12th M^y District.

Brig. Gen.

JOHN STRICKER

Com^r &c. Baltimore

I have ordered Maj. Armstead to make as much ammunition fixed as possible & to deliver it to your order. You will have it deposited in best position with reference to security & convenience. If no better place occurs to you the Magazine in Towsonton will be eligible.

Brigade Orders. Head Quarters. 3rd Brigade
Balt. August 25th 1814.

The 6th & 9th Regiments of Infantry the 5th Regiment of Cavalry and Capt^s Moales & Pikes Artillery under Col^l Harris are ordered to march this morning at 10 o'Clock.

The Brigadier Gen^l flatters himself, that these Corps will be full he feels confident that the soldiers of the 3rd Brigade are alive to the situation of our army towards Washington and will feel proud to march to the aid of those who have gallantly fought at Bladensburg among whom many of us can reckon a brother or a friend.

The Brigadier General will command in person.

By Order of Brig. Gen^l STRICKER

GEO. P. STEVENSON

Aid de Camp

Ross Tavern, 26th Aug. 1814

Brig Gen^l Stricker

7 A. M.

Sir

I am pleased at being enabled to confirm my Letter of yesterday from McCoy's, respecting the approach of the Enemy up this Road. We are just return'd from a view of Bladensburg, where all appears quiet & not a soldier on this side the Bridge.

We discover'd a very large Fire at day light, and are informed it is in the direction of the Navy Yard.

Cap^t Sterett & M^r Golder have just sett off in a Hack, both doing well.

As Col. Ragan will be in Town early this morning & can give much better information, & more correct, than any I can collect, respecting the Killed and Wounded, I must refer to him for that purpose, & remain Sir.

Very Respectfully

Your ob^t Serv^t

HENRY THOMPSON

Head Quarters

Aug. 29th 1814

Genl. Orders

Ordered that Brig. Gen. Stansbury do organize without delay the 11th Brigade M. M. called into service reserving an adequate number of Officers in proportion to the men conformably to the laws of Maryland and to dispense with the services of supernumary Officers whom he will direct to bring out into service those men who have not attended the call.

Brig. Gen. Thos. M. Forman will command the troops from Cecil, Harford, Ann Arundel, Annapolis and Delaware and organize them into corps under proper officers. The State Quarter Master Col. Richard Waters the U. S. Dep. Quartermaster Gen. and Dep. Commissary of Purchases will obey the orders of Gen. Stansbury and Gen. Forman for all supplies within their Departments.

Under their requisitions Major Armistead will supply the necessary ammunition. The Brig. Generals and all officers commanding separate corps will make morning reports to the Assistant Adj. Gen. at Head Quarters. The sick will be removed to the Hospital and Hampstead Hill where their respective surgeons will attend them.

By order of Maj. Gen. Smith

W^m BATES

Assist Adj. Gen. D. M. M.

THE QUIT RENT IN MARYLAND.¹

The quit rent system presents one of the most interesting problems in colonial history. Although it was enforced in all of the royal and proprietary colonies, its most characteristic forms may, perhaps, best be studied in Maryland. Here the quit rent was established at the very foundation of the colony and continued until the Revolution. As a result of this long unbroken development the quit rent in Maryland possesses great interest aside from the purely financial aspect. The general attitude of the proprietor in fixing the amount of the tax, and the popular sentiment toward it are questions of significance in the political history of early Maryland. Also, the evolution of the quit rent as an institution illustrates the play of forces that usually shaped the development of administrative forms in the colony. Therefore, the economic, the institutional, and the political aspects of the quit rent in Maryland must all be considered.

I. RATES.

By the terms of the charter Lord Baltimore and his heirs acquired exclusive right to the soil of Maryland. All patents were issued, therefore, subject to an annual payment, the quit rent. Two opposing forces determined the amount of this annual charge. The proprietor wished to obtain as high a rate as possible without keeping out intending settlers; the tenants endeavored to secure favorable terms, both in the rate and in the medium of payment. These varying motives form the keynote to the changes in the conditions and the amount of the rent.

In the first patents, issued in 1633, the quit rent was fixed at 20 lbs. of wheat per 50 acres. In 1634 this rate was increased

¹ The aid of the Carnegie Institution in the preparation of this paper is acknowledged.

to 30 lbs. of wheat on large holdings, while grants made in 1635 paid a uniform rent of 2 s. per 100 acres in commodities of the country.¹ But the rate of settlement proved unsatisfactory, and in 1641 the quit rent was reduced to 1 s. except on large estates.² This measure was so successful that in 1649 the proprietor restored the 2 s. rate. An attempt the same year to complicate the rate by provisions for a material advance after fixed periods proved unsuccessful.³ Yet the proprietor was determined to secure as high a rate as possible though the political complications attending the Puritan régime effectually stopped attempts to increase the rent. Finally in 1671 a rate of 4 s. was established which continued until the Revolution.⁴

The fluctuating value of tobacco, the usual medium of all payments, caused much difficulty in settling the rents. To obtain a uniform rate of 2 d. per lb. on all tobacco payments of quit rents and alienation fines, in 1671 the Assembly offered the proprietor an export duty of 1 s. per hogshead of tobacco. Despite the large loss of revenue the proprietor accepted this agreement, because it promised much greater ease of collection.⁵ The agreement continued in force until the death of Charles, Lord Baltimore, in 1715, when his successor refused to continue it; rents had risen greatly in value, and the colonial officials had been lax in levying the duty. As payment of the rents in money was practically impossible, a new agreement regarding the exchange value of tobacco was necessary. To relieve the situation the Assembly proposed to increase the duty to 18 d.⁶ However Lord Guilford, guardian of the proprietor, intimated that, if 6 d. were

¹ Conditions of Plantation, 1636, *Archives*, III, 47-48. All increased rates held for subsequent patents only. By the common law of previous contracts, the rate first specified in the patent held on the same piece of land, even when it had been alienated.

² Conditions of Plantation, 1641, *Archives*, III, 99.

³ Conditions of Plantation, 1648-9, *Archives*, III, 221 ff., and 223 ff.

⁴ C. P., Mch. 21, 1670, *Archives*, v, 63-4.

⁵ A. P., 1671, 1674, and 1676, *Archives*, II, 284, 386-87, and 515-17.

⁶ Account of Md. Revenue Laws, Md. Hist. Soc. MSS. After 1658 a fine was imposed upon every transfer of land equal to one year's rent. The law was so laxly enforced that alienation fines were practically a negligible quantity.

added, the resulting 2 s. would be accepted as full equivalent for all rents and alienation fines. Gov. Hart immediately advised that the 2 s. duty be levied. When Chas. Carroll produced a six years' lease of all quit rents to Henry Darnall, the Assembly no longer hesitated. Although Darnall refused the lease and Carroll tore it up, the threat was most effective. The Assembly levied an export duty of 2 s. per hogshead of tobacco in compensation for all quit rents and alienation fines. Lord Guilford took advantage of their eagerness to secure an additional 1 s. duty which was to be payable directly to the proprietor to defray the expenses of government.¹ The agreement had secured advantages to both proprietor and tenants. Beside a revenue free from the losses incident to collection of the quit rents the proprietor had gained full control of the colonial administration. The Assembly had secured a method of paying the quit rents which, while materially reducing the total amount, transferred the burden from the planters to the traders who were better able to bear it.²

The agreement at first gave general satisfaction. Gradually a widespread suspicion began to arise lest the proprietor was reaping an undue profit from the bargain. On the other hand the proprietor feared that he was losing by the agreement. Both views were erroneous. The burden upon the traders, who paid the duty, was slight while the proprietor received regular returns without the friction and loss that had resulted from the old payments in native commodities.³ The suspicions of the tenantry increased until in 1733 the Lower House refused to have the agreement continued.⁴ The loss of one half his revenue from rents, as a result, did not incline the proprietor to favor a renewal.

¹C. P., April 24 and 25, 1716, *Archives*, xxv, 337 and 339; U. H. J., July 24, 1716.

²U. H. J., Liber 31, 351-54.

³Benedict Calvert to Lord Baltimore, Oct. 20, 1729, *Calvert Papers*. In 1730, the Assembly added 3 d. duty to compensate the proprietor for the loss in revenue resulting from the legal limitation in the amount of tobacco to be planted. This measure showed the spirit of fairness in dealing with the proprietor. It was not renewed in 1731. See Acts of the Assembly, 1730.

⁴L. H. J., June 3, 1733.

Rather he made a futile attempt to increase the rates on new patents to 10 s.¹

As quit rents now became due in money the advantages to the tenant of the old agreement soon became obvious. A number of unsuccessful attempts were made to secure a renewal, all of them originating in the Lower House, the representatives of the people. Fearful of promising too much, the Lower House would not propose an exact equivalent for the rents, and the proprietor was equally guarded. One most impractical scheme proposed that local officials should collect the rents which would be payable in issues of paper money. Depreciation in the value of this paper currency would be made up by a duty on tobacco. This naïve scheme of colonial finance really involved the mere trouble of printing sufficient paper certificates to pay the rent. The proprietor promptly vetoed it.² Finally the proprietor named a definite annual sum, £5,000, as an acceptable equivalent for quit rents and alienation fines. By the deciding vote of the Speaker the Lower House consented to raise this sum from export and import duties, but the measure was lost through petty political haggling with the proprietor.³ These prolonged efforts to secure an agreement for quit rents were mainly a part of the struggle for greater colonial independence. The records show that the rents had not proved near so burdensome as had been alleged. A substitute duty would have transferred the burden from the planters, who constituted a majority, to the traders, who were not particularly popular with their customers. Above all, it would have handed over collections to the local authorities. The result would have been virtually to give a freehold title to land, and thus to secure at least partial freedom from the proprietary control.

¹ Calvert to Sharpe, Oct. 8, 1761, *Archives*, ix, 540-43; C. P., June 20, 1733, *Archives*, xxviii, 45-46.

² U. H. J., April 3, 6, and 9, 1736, and April 26, 1737.

³ Edmund Jennings to Lord Baltimore, June 12, 1744, and Lord Baltimore to Gov. Bladen, Mch. 20, 1748, *Calvert Papers*; U. H. J., Aug. 28, Sept. 5 and 24, 1745.

II. SPECIAL RATES.

With one exception no record of freehold patents is found. Yet special rates were occasionally made to carry out the proprietary policies. The chief instances in which this was done were; to regulate Indian affairs, to plant towns, and to settle disputed boundary lands and the frontier. Toward the Indians, who were most numerous on the Eastern Shore, the proprietor observed a conciliatory attitude. As collection of the usual quit rent from these savages was practically impossible, he demanded only recognition of his rights by nominal payments. Thus the Choptank Indians were subject to an annual rent of six beaver skins. The chiefs of the Indian River, the Assateague, the Pocomoke, and the Chicacoan Indians each agreed to annual payments of two dozen bows and arrows.¹ Similar agreements were made with other tribes. As a result of this sensible policy no friction arose with the Indians over their rents.

The attempts to build up the commercial interests of the colony by the founding of towns were not wholly successful. Although freehold lots were offered in St. Mary's City, the earliest town laid out, the agricultural interests of colonial Maryland did not demand urban centers, and the scheme failed.² Undeterred by this early failure, in 1683 the Assembly directed that 100 acres in every county should be laid out in one acre town lots. A quit rent of only 1d was to be charged on each lot.³ Annapolis, founded under this act, speedily became the seat of government, and the chief port of Maryland. Scarcely any of the subsequent acts to found towns materialized. So insignificant were the results that few entries of quit rents on town lots are found except for Annapolis, where, by 1761 they amounted to only 4¾ d.⁴ Yet these special rates are interesting as at least an incident of colonial policy.

¹ A. P., *Archives*, III, 200; C. P., July 24, 1752; *Archives*, XXVIII, 584 ff.

² Conditions of Plantation, 1636, *Archives*, III, 47-8.

³ A. P., *Archives*, VII, 613.

⁴ Lord Baltimore's Account Book, 1761, *Calvert Papers*. One of the

By granting reduced rates the proprietor tried to secure recognition of his authority in the seaboard lands under dispute with Pennsylvania. When the rent was increased to 4 s. he retained the old 2 s. rate for all patents located on the seaboard and on Delaware Bay.¹ Later this reduced rental was offered settlers in this region who claimed to hold grants under the Governor of New York.²—But these efforts to obtain control of the disputed territory were not successful.

More important in actual results were the measures taken to people the frontier, or the back lands, as they were commonly called. This policy was necessary to afford an outlet for expansion from the more fertile and accessible fields of the tidewater and to erect a barrier against the French and Indians. To frontier settlers between the Susquehanna and the Potomac the proprietor waived all rents for three years.³ These instructions were repeated in 1749 to encourage the German settlers who were especially numerous in the Monocacy Valley.⁴ As a result of these reductions in the quit rent, and of other equally liberal measures, the frontier was peopled with a most desirable class of immigrants, 2,800 Germans coming in between 1748 and 1756.⁵ At least by this means the proprietor had endeavored to promote the interests of the colony.

most interesting of these acts to lay out towns, founded Charles Town in Cecil County in 1742. Besides 200 acres, to be divided into 200 lots, the Commissioners were authorized to buy 300 acres for a commons. The quit rent was 2 d. per lot, the higher rate being justified by the commons. All lot holders were exempted from the payment of clergy taxes and parochial charges. In connection with the commons this last provision would indicate perhaps a New England influence in this part. See Acts of the Assembly, 1742.

¹ Instructions, July 28, 1669, and May 21, 1670, *Archives*, v, 54-5, and 63-4.

² C. P., June 24, 1677, *Archives*, xv, 133.

³ Instructions, Mch. 22, 1733, *Archives*, xxviii, 25.

⁴ Instructions, 1749, *Proprietary Papers*.

⁵ Council Proceedings, Aug. 23, 1756.

III. MEDIUM OF PAYMENT.

The different mediums of payment accepted in settlement of the quit rent illustrate the opportunist monetary policy of early Maryland. The first grants specified payment in native commodities, but on later patents the rents were due in money. During the seventeenth and the early part of the eighteenth century, however, tobacco, was the usual medium of payment. Occasionally lumber, household goods, and plate were received. English grains, such as barley, peas, wheat, rye, and oats were also accepted as lawful currency in obedience to colonial laws. The friction that resulted from fixing the exchange value of these commodities, especially tobacco, was finally settled in 1671 when the 1 s. duty was laid in compensation for receiving tobacco at 2 d. per lb.⁴ After 1733 payments were made either in money or tobacco, and occasionally wheat was accepted in the great Eastern Shore wheat belt. Usually the proprietor exhibited an enlightened policy in accepting the medium of exchange that was economically possible.

⁴ The different acts that attempted to regulate the price of tobacco and to encourage other crops are illustrative of the economic problems of the seventeenth century. The first law of this kind, passed in 1640, was designed to encourage the cultivation of corn. The act prohibited the exportation of corn, and ordered that it should be accepted in all payments at an exchange of 30 lbs. of tobacco per bbl. of corn. See *Archives*, I, 96. In 1662 another act provided that English grains were to be accepted in all payments; wheat at 5 s., barley and English peas at 3 s., rye at 4 s., and oats at 2 s. 6 d. per bu. These grains were also to be accepted in all tobacco payments at the rate of 2 d. per lb. of tobacco. See *Archives*, I, 445. In 1669, as money was scarce, tobacco was declared legal tender for all debts at 3½ d. per lb. See *Archives*, II, 220-21. In 1682 Indian corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, peas, pork, beef, and bacon were made legal tender except in payment of rents and public levies. This measure was passed to avoid the suffering which, it was feared, would ensue from such excessive crops of tobacco. See *Archives*, VII, 321. In 1692, this act was continued and rents were no longer excepted. The exchange price of tobacco was fixed at 1 d. per lb., or 18/25 d. in money payments. This last act shows the futility of the various attempts to increase the price of tobacco by legal enactment. See *Archives*, XIII, 493-94, and 532-33.

IV. RETURNS.

The numerous gaps in the records prevent even an approximate estimate of the quit rents for most of the seventeenth century. For the eighteenth century there are sufficient sources for at least a reasonably fair estimate of the returns. At first the loose methods of collection resulted in great losses. This explains the willingness of the proprietor to accept the 1 s. compensatory duty. In 1690 this duty netted only £1,345 3 s. 7½ d. The gross money value of the rents was about £5,000, but even if all the rents were collected in tobacco at 2 d. per lb., their actual selling value at ¾ d., the real price of tobacco, was only £1,875. Added to the duty, therefore, the rents netted only £3,220 3 s. 7½ d., or there was a loss of at least one-third.¹ This loss was increased by the agreement to accept a 2 s. duty in lieu of all quit rents and alienation fines. In 1724 the rent rolls approximated £5,225 12 s., while the 2 s. duty netted only £2,855 12 s., or the actual loss to the proprietor was fully one-half of the rents.² Evidently the certain returns from the duty, in contrast to the vexations of direct collection, formed the chief inducement to continue the agreement. These reduced returns partly explain the eagerness of the Lower House, and the indifference of the proprietor, after 1733, to enter upon a new arrangement for the rents.

After the resumption of direct collections of the quit rent, in 1733, the returns showed a steady increase. In 1745 the gross value of the rents was about £6,000, the net value £5,101 2 s. 2 d., or the loss due to collections was less than one-sixth.³ By 1755 this loss had decreased still more. The gross amount of the quit rent had increased to £6,859 10 s. 9¼ d., but as the net returns amounted to £5,826 2 s. 4 d., only a little over one-seventh was lost in collection. Further leakages were stopped

¹ C. P., *Archives*, VIII, 205.

² Acts of the Assembly, 1730.

³ U. H. J., Sept. 19, 1745.

in the next five years by the collection of large arrears on the Eastern Shore and in Frederick, the frontier county, the two regions most inaccessible to Annapolis. By 1770 the gross rents had risen to £8,297 2 s. 11¼ d. with a loss of not over 10% in collection. This was the approximate value at the beginning of the Revolution. The increase in net returns had kept pace with that in gross amount. While there had been a gradually increased efficiency in collection, there had been also, as judged by the rent rolls, a continual expansion of settlement after 1730.¹

That the burden of the quit rent had not been greatly oppressive to the individual landholder is shown by comparing the average rates in 1712 and 1756. In the former the average annual quit rent per taxable was not less than 9 s. 1d. By 1756 this average had been reduced nearly one-half to 4 s.

¹ The following table gives the chief basis for estimates of the rent.

Year.	Net Value, Rents.	Year.	Gross Value, Rents.
1753.....	£5,752 4 s. 8¼ d.	1722-24.....	£5,225 13 s. ½ d.
1754.....	£5,325 12 s. 9½ d.	1750-55.....	£6,859 10 s. 9¼ d.
1755.....	£5,826 2 s. 4 d.	1760-65.....	£7,398 17 s. 3¼ d.
1756.....	£5,121 3 s. 11¼ d.	1770.....	£8,297 6 s. 11¼ d.
1758.....	£8,593 16 s. 4 d.		
1759.....	£9,273 16 s. 4½ d.		
1760.....	£6,093 19 s. 7¾ d.		
1761.....	£8,383 5 s. 11½ d.		

Alienation fines varied from £137 in 1748 to £250 in 1761. Hence their amount is of small moment in comparison with that from quit rents. See Lord Baltimore's Account Books, and Rent Rolls, *Calvert Papers*, also Rent Rolls, and Debt Books, *Land Office Records*. It is important to note that quit rents constituted only a part of Lord Baltimore's revenue from the province of Maryland. Thus, in 1748, out of a total income of £11,652 7 s., only £4,093 10 s. 10 d. net was derived from the quit rents. Other important sources of revenue were the tonnage duty, purchase money, and manor rents. The last, as the rents of the Proprietor's own private demeane, are to be distinguished from the quit rents, the general charge upon all the soil. See Mereness, *Maryland as a Proprietary Province*, 90 ff., also see Lord Baltimore's Account Book, 1748, *Calvert Papers*.

4¾ d. Moreover, as a result of the general tendency to divide large estates, the average holding was from 200 to 300 acres, and the incidence of the rent was more evenly distributed. As the caution money exacted at the time the patent was issued was small, the rent was a reasonable charge. Therefore the Lower House was hardly sincere in claiming that the rents constituted a real burden. This evidence supports the conclusion that, in the attempts after 1733 to secure a new agreement, the Assembly was really endeavoring to obtain a greater degree of freedom from external control.¹

V. SYSTEM OF COLLECTION.

The system of collecting the rents was at first exceedingly crude. Two collectors were appointed to receive the rents which were all to be paid at St. Mary's City. As settlement spread beyond the southern peninsula this method became most ineffective. The Chesapeake Bay and its estuaries divided the colony into so many sections that it was practically impossible for all the tenants to make their payments at St. Mary's City. The proprietor met these conditions in 1733 by inaugurating an excellent scheme of collection. A collector, popularly known as a farmer of rent, was appointed in each county. These collectors received from 20 to 30% commission, and were under the supervision of two rent roll keepers, one on the Eastern, the other on the Western Shore, who received 5% commission on all receipts. Every year they sent each collector a debt book with the list of rents due in his county.² By careful supervision of the account books, and by compelling the collectors to give sufficient bond, the proprietors finally evolved a most efficient scheme of collection. A

¹ *Archives*, xxv, 255-59, C. P., Aug. 23, 1756.

² C. P., Jan. 19, 1734, *Archives*, xxviii, 54, and 67-8. At first the quit rents were payable semi-annually, Lady Day (Mch. 25), and Michaelmas (Sept. 29). Later only one payment was made annually on Sept. 29.

reduction in the commission was also secured after several schemes had been tried, including a disastrous attempt to have all quit rents collected by the sheriffs on a 10% commission. Finally a satisfactory plan was formulated by which one farmer of rent received two or three counties on a 10% commission.

VI. ENFORCEMENT.

The measures to enforce payment of the rents were also gradually evolved. During the early days of settlement many patents were taken out which were never entered upon, and frequently the owners of land died without heirs. Such land of course escheated to the proprietor. Yet delinquent tenants were seldom dispossessed, though the Assembly passed a number of measures requiring them to pay their rents in a fixed time.¹ Yet the system of enforcement was so uncertain that in 1651 it was necessary to revise it thoroughly. Any provincial official was given the power to levy rents and arrears on "any goods, chattels, or debts on land upon which charges were due, of any tenant or dweller thereupon." Where the goods seized were not in kind, two appraisers were to be appointed who would return any balance to the owner. If there was no visible estate, the tenant might be imprisoned until satisfaction was made.² This very reasonable measure was strengthened by a law making every debt due the proprietor a prior lien.³ These sensible measures proved to be most effective in enforcing the quit rents.

One source of great loss in the seventeenth century was caused by large holdings of land not listed in the rent rolls. This evil was chiefly the result of issuing patents which simply specified the number of acres, to be located wherever desired. Often the holders of these patents, taking advantage of the

¹ A. P., *Archives*, I, 288-89, etc.

² P. C. P., Jan. 30, 1651, *Archives*, x, 124-25.

³ A. P., 1650, *Archives*, I, 304.

numerous necks of land, would wilfully enlarge the number of acres in their claims. In Somerset County, one planter, by a clever manipulation of natural boundaries, actually held 12,000 acres, while paying rent on only 3,000.¹ Conflicting claims and the numerous squatters swelled the roll of non-rent paying lands. By the institution of an annual court of survey and inquiry in each county, the proprietor was able to detect such frauds. Even then a lenient policy was observed which was so successful that by 1741 most of the fertile lands held by squatters had been patented.² This result was achieved with little friction. The proprietor had observed a moderate policy which, rather than incur violent opposition by hasty action, had gradually worked toward the goal of an effective collection of the quit rents. Small losses were never wholly eliminated, and rents were often waived where a sufficient cause for non-payment could be shown.

VII. GRIEVANCES.

A search of the records fails to disclose any direct opposition to the collection of the quit rents. While a number of complaints against various exactions were forwarded to London, none of them questioned the inherent right of the proprietor to collect rents. Doubtless this lack of opposition was largely due to the prompt relief that was accorded in cases of extortion by the collectors. A typical case which arose in 1748 well illustrates, not only the conciliatory policy of the proprietor, but also the difficulties that constantly beset the colonial government in the back country. The collectors in this region were accustomed to appoint deputies. Occasionally even these extra officials were unable to cover the long distances between the tenants, and the money to pay rents was entrusted to neighbors who failed to deliver it. As a result many tenants alleged

¹ C. P., Oct., 1679, *Archives*, xv, 262.

² C. P., Aug. 21, 1741, *Archives*, xxviii, 256.

that they had been placed upon a "black list" for non-payment of their rents. The sheriff, they charged, had then extorted a large commission in settlement, which was much more than his lawful fee. Many of them had paid rather than incur greater expense in seeking relief. The petition setting forth these grievances gave a list of twenty-seven persons, who had suffered this imposition, though many of them owed only a half year's rent. The petition recited that many of them were Germans who had suffered oppression in their native land. Fearing that they would be maltreated in Maryland also, a few had left the colony, and others were preparing to depart. The Governor and Council quickly remedied this real grievance.¹

VIII. ECONOMIC EFFECT.

The economic effect of the quit rent is well summarized in two memorials submitted by Gov. Sharpe. Comparing Maryland and Pennsylvania, Gov. Sharpe concluded that the rate of the quit rent could not be increased in the former. In the latter it had been possible to do so, for land values had greatly increased as the result of a large influx of Germans who had been allowed to settle where they pleased. The proprietor had advanced the rate only after many improvements had been made and the settlers had submitted rather than surrender their cultivated plantations. In Maryland settlement was too sparse to make any such advance. If it was done, Gov. Sharpe believed that many settlers would leave the colony. Again, in Pennsylvania millers bought corn and drovers collected cattle, but not in Maryland where there was no demand. Land could, therefore, always be rented in Pennsylvania, but in Maryland the population was not sufficiently large to supply tenants. In Virginia Gov. Sharpe found that the land was more fertile and the colony more prosperous than in Maryland.

¹ C. P., June 7, 1748, *Archives*, XXVIII, 420-24.

The discouraging economic situation in Maryland, as compared with the two neighboring colonies, Gov. Sharpe attributed partly to the clergy taxes, partly to higher quit rents. Although the purchase money was higher in Pennsylvania than in Maryland, it was paid once for all, while the quit rent, a perpetual charge, was lower, and there was no clergy tax. These two items gave an annual rate in Maryland of 5 s. 9 d. per 110 acres in excess of that in Pennsylvania. In Virginia, though there was a clergy tax, the purchase money was less, and the quit rent only one-half the usual rate in Maryland. From these contemporary observations of Gov. Sharpe, it is clear that the quit rent, together with the clergy tax, had at least a retarding influence in the growth and general prosperity of Maryland.¹

IX. CONCLUSIONS.

Certain definite conclusions may be drawn from this study of the quit rents in Maryland:

1. In its institutional development the system of quit rents followed a peaceful evolution. Confronted at first by the problem of settling a new country, the proprietor was restrained from demanding too excessive a rent. This same limitation prevented later attempts to impose an unreasonable rate. A similar opportunist policy was followed in formulating a system of collection and enforcement. New methods were adopted as they were demanded by the expansion of the colony. Constantly the proprietor recognized the influence of a representative assembly which was on the watch to prevent extortionate methods. The result was an effective system of colonial taxation by an absentee proprietor.

2. The minutiae in the gradual development of the quit rent system are typical of many of the problems that confronted

¹ Sharpe to Calvert, Feb. 10, 1754, *Archives*, vi, 376; Memorandum of Gov. Sharpe and Council, about 1757-58, *Calvert Papers*.

the colonial government. The quit rents inevitably became involved in the problems that arose from the immense crops of tobacco and the necessity of cultivating other commodities. Therefore in the early days the proprietors accepted the medium of payment that was possible. The extortion of money payments, even though the proprietor had the right to exact them, would have led to serious disturbances. The same liberal policy was shown in granting special rates in order to foster the best interests of the colony. While the settlement of the back country, and the pacification of the Indians had been the chief results of these special rates, the proprietor had at least tried to build up the commercial interests in promoting the founding of towns. The agreement for a partial, and then a complete, composition for the quit rents, had also formed a phase of this pacific policy. Even though the proprietor had suffered much loss, this agreement was only terminated by the jealous fears of the tenants. All such pacific measures were of course beneficial to the proprietor as ultimately promoting the peaceful collection of the rent, and thus increasing the value of his colony. Yet with practically absolute power over the terms of the land grants, the proprietor might have disregarded the voice of the Assembly, and have adopted a blind system of extortion which would have wrought great injury.

3. As a political measure the quit rent did not cause any appreciable opposition to the colonial government. The ease with which the rents were collected is a proof of this assertion. The arrears were large in the seventeenth century, but the gradual systematization of collection and enforcement overcame this situation in the end except on the Eastern Shore and in Frederick County, the two frontier sections. In both the arrears resulted from the careless work of inefficient agents rather than from actual opposition, and they were finally collected without any great friction. The tenants, through the Assembly, confined their efforts to attempts to secure more favorable terms; they made no opposition to the tax itself.

Perhaps, in view of the small burden, the persistent attempts to secure an agreement were not wholly the result of monetary considerations. When the tax was collected by a duty the evidence of external control was largely removed. Doubtless the efforts for an agreement were in reality only the expression of a growing feeling for colonial independence. But the evidence does not show that the quit rent itself was a material factor in promoting the growth of this feeling. Merely the general attitude was reflected, not towards the tax, but towards the methods of collection.

4. In its economic effect the quit rent had been a retarding factor, together with the clergy tax, upon the growth of the colony, although the burden was comparatively light and evenly distributed. Gov. Sharpe shows clearly that the amount of these two taxes kept out many intending settlers. In these early days even a slight increase in the rates would operate in such a fashion.¹

LAND NOTES, 1634-1655.

[Continued from p. 271.]

Liber L. O. R., I.

26th febr 1639.

Set forth for Nathaniel Pope a parcell of Land bounding on the west with St Maries Bay, on the South wth St John's Creek and the Town Land of John Lewger Esq on the East with the Northern branch of the Said St John's Creek and on the North with a right line drawn from a Swamp in the Said St Maries Bay called Pope's Swamp, . . . containing in the whole one hundred acres or thereabouts.

¹ While it is probably impossible to form a comparative estimate of the density of population in Maryland and Pennsylvania, at least the testimony of Gov. Sharpe, a most competent witness, shows that the quit rent had kept out many intending settlers.

27th febr 1639. [Manor of Snow Hill.]

Set forth for Abel Snow a parcell of Land Lyeing together about Snow hill, bounding upon the South with St John's Creek, on the East with the Northern branch of the Said Creek, untill it meet with Mattapanient path, and Soe along the Said path unto the Southern bound of M^r Poulton's Manor called the Manor . . . on the North with a right line drawn from the Said bound in the Path unto St George's River above the place commonly called Portobacko quarter or the head of the River and on the West with the Said River containing in the whole to the quantity of Six thousand acres or thereabouts.

28th March 1640.

Robert Percie Gent demandeth Land to him for transporting himself at his own charge into the Province upon the Merchant-Bonaventure in the Year 1635 (Viz^d) 100 acres of Land in freehold, and was allowed.

Eod.—

The Said Robert Percie assigned over all his right and Interest unto the Said 100 acres of Land unto John Dandie and his heirs.

Robert Percy.

21 July 1640.

Came the Said John Dandie and assigned over all his right and Interest unto the Said 100 acres unto Philip West and his heirs.

the Mark of John × Dandie.

21 July 1640.

The Said Robert Percy Gent demandeth ffive acres of Town Land due to him for transporting himself at his own charge into the Province in the year 1635.—and assigned over all his right unto the Said five acres unto Robert Clerk Gent.

4th December 1640. [Manor of St. Richards.]

Richard Garnett prayeth to have granted to him a Manor of 1000 acres for transporting himself his wife and four Children and two Servants into the Province in the year 1637.

6th Decemb 1640.

Laid out for Richard Garnett a parcell of Land lyeing upon the South Side of Patuxent River and bounding on the North with S^t Laurences Creek, and a paralell line drawn from the Westernmost bite of the Said Creek where the Manor of S^t Gregorie ends due West till it intersect the path way leading over the head of the Said S^t Laurences Creek on the west with a Meridian Line drawn from the Said Intersection for the length of 530 perches on the South with a paralell line drawn from the end of the Said 530 perches due East untill it Intersect the Meridian of the Southermost branch of S^t Stevens Creek where the Mañor of the Conception ends and on the East with Patuxent River containing 1000 acres.

30th March 1640.

M^r Gerrard demandeth 1000 acres of Land for transporting into the Province at his own charge five able men in the years of our Lord 1635. & 1636 and Since that is to Say :

Oliver Gibbons	Henry Smith	Thomas Morris.
William Pinly	Thomas White	

30th March 1640.

I would have you to lay out for M^r Thomas Gerrard 1000 acres of Land adjoyning to the North of S^t Clement's Mañor where the Town of Mattapanient now Standeth, and including the Island in S^t Catherines Creek called S^t Catherines Island.

13 Nov 1641.

Thomas Gerrard demandeth acres of Land more for transporting at his own charge able men in the year of our Lord 1640

John Gerrard	Richard Wright	Francis Sutton
John Taylor	Richard Boreman	Thomas Doe
John Shanks	Richard Walker	

3^d Aprill 1640.

Owen Phillips Gent demandeth one hundred acres of Land due to him by Conditions of Plantation for transporting himself into the Province in the year 1638.—And was allowed.—

3^d. Aprill 1640.

Lay out one hundred acres of Land at Pinie point Plantation for Owen Phillips Gent for transporting himself at his own Charge into the Province in the year 1638.

4th. Aprill 1640.

Came the Said Owen Phillips and assigned over all his right and Interest in the Said hundred acres of Land unto Peter Draper.

2^d. Aprill 1640.

Leonard Calvert Esq demandeth 100 acres of Land due to him for transporting into the Province one able man Servant called James Hockly in the year 1633 and assigned over his interest in the Said 100 acres unto Peter Draper.

Peter Draper demandeth 100 acres of Land for transporting himself into the Province in the year 1633, and 100 acres more Due by assignment from Leonard Calvert Esq and one hundred acres more due by assignment from Owen Phillips Gent.

10th. Aprill 1643.

Peter Draper Gent demandeth 1300 acres of Land due by assignment of Leonard Calvert Esq, and 100 acres more due in his own name ut Sup : and 100 acres more due by assignment of Owen Phillips vt Supra.

Eod

I doe assigne 1300 acres of the Land demanded by me upon Record and due by Conditions of Plantacon unto Peter Draper.

Leonard Calvert.

Aprill 28 1640.

Randall Revell demandeth one hundred acres of Land for transporting himselfe into the Province.

17th. Octob 1640.

Laid out for Randell Revell a Neck of Land within the Mañor of West Stⁱ Maries called Green's Point bounding on the East South and North with Stⁱ George's River, on the West with a

Line drawn Cross the Woods, beginning at the Westermost branch of the Creek Called the Oyster Creek and ending at the head of a bite on the South Side of Thomas Surgeons Creek called Cooper's bite containing in the whole 100 acres or thereabouts

Rob. Clarke.

29th Novemb 1642.

The Said Randall Surrendred his Said Patent into his Lordship's hande to the use of Jane Cockshott Widow.

July 27th 1641.

Randall Revell demandeth one hundred acres of Land for transporting Rebecca his wife into the Province and 50 acres more for transporting his Son John Since the year 1634, and 100 acres more for 1 man Servant Richard Nevill 25th August 1641, and 100 acres more assigned from Thomas Letherborow, and assigned his right in 50 acres unto Richard Nevill.

Decemb 14th 1641.

Laid out for Randol Revell a parcel of Land lyeing on the South Side of Breton's Bay Containing 300 acres or thereabouts.

6th May 1640.

Mary Throughton Widdow demandeth fifty acres of Land due by Speciall warrant from his Lordship for transporting herself and 6 Servants into the Colony in the year 1638.

29th May 1640.

Laid out for the Said M^{rs} Mary Throughton a portion of Town land lyeing nearest together about the Plantation called S^t Barbara's, containing in the whole to the quantity of fiftie acres or thereabouts.

29th Octob 1639.

Memorandum That I have assigned Seven hundred and fiftie acres of Land to M^r Britton in a neck upon the Main to the Northward of Heron Island and to the Eastward of S^t Clements Manor, Provided that he enter his names for which the Said Land

is due in the Surveyor's book, and procure the Same to be Surveyed within a twelve month from the date hereof and take a Grant of it under the Great Seal.

Leonard Calvert.

28 Octob 1639.

William Britton Gent demandeth ffive hundred and ffiftie acres of Land in ffreehold for transporting himself and wife and one Child and three able manservants and two hundred acres more due Thomas Nabbs for transporting himself and his wife whose assigne the Said William Britton is by intermarriage wth Mary daughter and heir of the Said Thomas, the Said persons Transported into the Province of Maryland in the year 1637 to plant and Inhabit there,

Names of the 3 Servants

John Mansell,

Richard Harris,

James Jelfe.

June 29th 1640.

Laid out for William Britton Gent one Neck of Land lyeing in Patomeck River, near over ag^t Heron Island, and bounding on the South with the Said Patomeck River on the West with S^t Clements Bay on the East with a Great Bay called Brittain Bay, and on the North with a line drawn cross the woods from S^t Clements Bay unto the head of a little Creek in Brittain Bay called S^t Nicholas Creek, where now goeth the hedge of the Said William Britton, the Said Neck containing in the whole Seven hundred and fifty acres or thereabouts.

12th febr: 1639.

M^r Lewger you may Sett forth for your self as assigne of Cap^t Tho: Cornwaleys, one hundred acres of Town Land, lyeing about S^t John's, and in your own right by vertue of a Speciall warrant from his Lordp one hundred acres more, the Said two hundred acres to begin on the South at a Swamp in the Mill Creek called West's Swamp, and so to run East into the woods and on the North to bound with S^t John's Creek and to Include All the Marsh and low grounds on both Sides the Said Creek.

Likewise you may Set forth for your Self by Speciall warrant

from his Lordp any two Mañors not exceeding three thousand acres in the whole in any part of Patowmeck River between the herring Creek, and the Land disposed of to M^r William Britton and for Soe doing this Shall be your Warrant.

Leonard Calvert.

25th July 1640.

Baltasar Codd demandeth five acres of Town Land due to him for transporting himself at his own Charge into the Province in the Month of August 1638 and was allowed :

Eod

The Said Baltasar assigned all his right and Interest in the Said five acres unto Robert Clerk.

16th July 1640.

Robert Clerk demandeth five acres of Town Land for transporting himself into the Province in the year 1637, and five and twenty acres more as assigne of William Britton Gent and five acres more as assigne of Robert Percy and ten acres more as assigne of Thomas Pasmore and 5 acres more as assigne of Baltasar Codd and one hundred acres of ffree Land due to him for transporting himself into the Province in the year one thousand Six hundred thirty Seven.

21 July 1640.

The Said Robert Clerk assigned all his right and Interest in the Said hundred acres unto Philip West.

Rob^t Clarke.

6th June 1640.

I would have you to lay out fifty acres of Land bordering upon S^t Peters Key for John Harris and Thomas Allen and to grant them a Patent for it in ffreehold for the yeerly rent of a barrel of corne.

Leonard Calvert.

15th July 1640.

Came Thomas Allen and quitted and assigned all his Interest in the Said Warrant unto John Harris.

15th July 1640.

Laid out for John Harris a neck of Land bordering upon a Creek in St Inego's Creek called St Peters Key . . . containing in the whole fiftie acres of Land or thereabouts.

15th September.

Came John Harris and assigned all his right in the foresaid Land unto Roger Oliver Marriner.

24th July 1640.

Thomas Pasmore demandeth Sixty Acres of Town Land for bringing into the Province at his own charge Six able men Servants in the year 1634, and twenty acres of town Land more for four other Servants brought in by the Said Thomas Pasmore in the latter end of the year 1635.

Anno 1634

Thomas Price,
Henry Tailor.

Rich^d. Williams,

Henry Baker,

Anno 1635

John Armesby,
Ananias Read.

Bryan Kelly,

Thomas Thomas,

26th July 1640.

The Said Thomas Pasmore assigned ten of the aforesaid acres unto Robert Clerke.

20th March 1640.

Thomas Pasmore demandeth 100 acres Land for transporting into the Province in the year 1635, one man Servant named Henry Baker.

And the Said Thomas assigned his Interest in the Said 100 acres unto Anthony Rawlins.

Septemb^r 4th 1641.

Lay out for Anthony Rawlins 50 acres of Land upon the point on the North Side of the Creek beyond Pork hall called the ffresh Creek.

21 July 1640.

Phillip West Carpenter demandeth one hundred acres of Land in Right of Robert Percy and one hundred acres more in right of Robert Clerk.

30th July 1640.

Laid out for Phillip West a Neck of Land lyeing at the North end of the Manor of West S^t Maries bounding on the South wth a line drawn from a Marsh below the Plantation of late cleared by William Broughe and John Prettiman called ffrog marsh, through the woods of the Said Mañor Westward for the length of 275 perches or thereabouts unto a gutt falling into a Creek called the Oyster Creek, on the West and North with the Said Oyster Creek and on the East with S^t George's River containing in the whole two hundred acres or thereabouts.

11th August 1640.

Walter Broadhurst Gent demandeth three hundred acres of Land in ffreehold for transporting himself into the Province in the year 1638, with two able men Servants called Oliver Gibbons, and William Pinley.

18th July 1642.

The Said Walter Broadhurst acknowledged that he had assigned over all his right in the two men and their Conditions of Plantation unto M^r Thomas Gerrard when he Sold him the men, And he further assigned over his own right in Conditions of Plantation for the transporting of himself unto the Said M^r Gerrard.

7th September 1640.

Capt William Brainthwait Commander of the Isle of Kent.

7th September 1640.

Robert Huett & Henry Bellamy pray to have confirmed to them the neck called Crany neck which they are now possessed of.

24th September 1640.

I would have You to lay out for Robert Huett and Henry Bellamy, the neck called Craney neck in the Isle of Kent and to

Certify to M^r Secretary the bounds and Contents thereof. [Manor of Crayford.]

7th Sept 1640.

Edward Comins of the Isle of Kent Planter as assigne of Thomas Pett prayeth to have Confirmed to him that parcell of Land which he now holdeth by Grant of Capt Clayborne.

24th September 1640.

Lay out for Edward Comins the parcell of Land which he now holdeth by Grant of Capt Clayborne, to Thomas Pett, whose assigne the Said Edward Comins is, and to certifie the bounds and Contents thereof to M^r Secretary.

9th Nov. Eod.

Laid out for Thomas Keyne the Neck of Land called hog penn Neck, lyeing between thicketty Creek on the North, hog pen Creek on the South Chesapeak bay on the West and a Meridian line drawn from the head of Thicketty Creek, to the head of hog pen Creek on the East Containing 100 acres.

7th Sept 1640.

Robert Philpott of the Isle of Kent Gent prayeth to have Confirmed to him all that neck of Land w^{ch} he now holdeth by grant of Capt Will. Clayborne.

25th September 1640.

Laid out for M^r Robert Philpott all that Neck of Land lyeing upon the Eastern Side of the Isle of Kent between the Land of Richard Thompson on the South Pinie bay on the North Chesapeak bay on the East Philpotts Creek and a line drawn from the head of Philpotts Creek unto the head of the Northermost branch of Long point Creek on the West, Containing three hundred and fifty acres or thereabouts.

7th Septemb. 1640.

Phillip Conner of the Isle of Kent Planter demandeth 100 acres for transporting himself into the Province.

GODFREY WALLACE.

The presentation to the Society, by Mr. Edward Stabler, of one of the old fashioned annuals, the *Atlantic Souvenir* for 1831, has brought out the fact that Mr. John H. B. Latrobe began his literary career as a writer of fiction under the *nom-de-plume* of Godfrey Wallace.

Seven volumes of the *Atlantic Souvenir* were published in Philadelphia, from 1826 to 1832, and Mr. Latrobe, then a student of law, was an occasional contributor to its pages. In order to establish the identity of the pseudonym and make it a matter of record, Mr. Stabler has made the following statement:

"There are probably very few members of the Maryland Historical Society who are aware that our late President, Hon. John H. B. Latrobe, was in early life a writer of fiction.

"Some time during the year 1890 I called at his office upon a matter of business and after our business was finished, he, being in a reminiscent mood, told me many of the events of his early life. His father had died and left a small income for the maintenance and education of the family. He was the eldest child and while reading law in the office of Robert Goodloe Harper—there were no law schools then—and doing the legal drudgery of the office, he determined to supplement the family income by the use of his pen. Among his other efforts he wrote original stories for the *Atlantic Souvenir*, an annual published in Philadelphia for the holiday season. He did not claim great merit for these stories, but he said it was quite remarkable that he had not seen one of the issues of the little book since the time his last story was published and had made diligent search for them for fifty years. He told me that he had written under the *nom-de-plume* of 'Godfrey Wallace' and that he would give almost 'its weight in gold' for a copy of the *Souvenir*.

"His plea appealed so strongly to me and having such a high regard—or I might say veneration—for Mr. Latrobe, who was an old personal friend of my father, I determined to find some of the coveted volumes as I felt sure that one or more of them must still be in existence. I made a note of the title, the publishers, names and the dates—not forgetting 'Godfrey Wallace.'

"A few months after, I saw the title in a book auction catalogue, bearing the date wanted. I did not let the book escape me and when I presented it to Mr. Latrobe he received it with the affection that he would have bestowed upon a long lost child that had most unexpectedly reappeared. He said my finding it was so remarkable that he would ask me to write him a letter detailing the circumstances under which I searched for and found the book. He was writing his autobiography at that time—when he had the leisure or was in the humor—that his children may wish to publish it; he did not intend to do so. Some months after that I found a second volume and upon sending it to him, I received the following letter:

'My dear Mr. Stabler:—

'Another volume of the *Atlantic Souvenir* containing one of my novellettes has made its appearance, for which I have to thank you. There still remain two of these efforts of my early days, in which love of literature inspired me less, I honestly admit, than the pecuniary compensation. "The Esmeralda" and "Heroine of Suli."

'It is rare that one finds a friend who is willing to take the trouble that you have done, in this connection, and again I thank you.

Most truly,

JNO. H. B. LATROBE.

EDWARD STABLER, Esq.

October 1, 1890.'

"After Mr. Latrobe's death I picked up two more copies, one of them from a foreign catalogue and presented them to General F. C. Latrobe.

"During the past month, I have found an additional copy for

the year 1831 and have presented it to the Historical Society as it is a duplicate of those formerly discovered by me.

EDWARD STABLER, JR."

[The story in the *Souvenir* for 1831 is entitled "Giles Heatherby, the Free Trader." Mr. Latrobe's other contributions published under his own name are: History of Mason and Dixon's Line, 1854; Personal Recollections of the B. & O. Railroad, 1858; Justice's Practice under the laws of Maryland, 1840, and many subsequent editions; Hints for six months in Europe, 1869; Odds and Ends (Verse), privately printed 1876; History of Maryland in Liberia, 1885; Reminiscences of West Point, 1818 to 1822, 1877.]

LETTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE ARCHIVES.

LIEUT. RAPHAEL SEMMES TO GOV. P. F. THOMAS.

U. S. Navy Yard, Pensacola.

August 2nd, 1848.

Sir :

I have had the honor to receive your communication on the 11th ult. enclosing me a copy of a resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland, tendering me, its thanks, and congratulations, for my services in Mexico, during the late war.

I feel highly honored by so flattering a testimonial of the manner in which my poor services have been regarded by my native State—that State, which, in all my wanderings by sea, and land, I have ever looked back upon, with pride and filial affection.

Mexico having had, during the late contest, neither commerce, nor ships of war upon the Ocean, the Navy has been of necessity, compelled to play but a subordinate part, and in seizing the

opportunity, which chance threw in my way, of participating with our glorious army, in the battles of the Valley of Mexico, I have done no more than Maryland had a right to expect, of the meanest of her sons.

I shall ever cherish this expression of her maternal regard, with honest pride, and carrying the recollection of it, with me, to distant seas, endeavour to repay in some degree, by renewed devotion to the interests, and honor of our common country, the lasting debt of gratitude, under which she has placed me.

For the very kind terms in which you have been pleased to convey to me, this expression of the feelings of my fellow citizens of Maryland, be pleased to accept the assurances of my friendly regard.

I have the honor to be, Very Respectfully, your Obt. Servt.

R. SEMMES,

Lieut. U. S. Navy.

His Excellency

Philip F. Thomas,

Governor of the State of Maryland.

LIEUT. JOHN CONTEE TO GOV. P. F. THOMAS.

Chateau Conti.

Dec^r 2d. 1848.

Sir :

I have the honor to acknowledge yr. letter, and with it a copy of "the preamble and resolutions of the General Assembly of Maryland" referring to my conduct in the Naval operations during the War with Mexico, and presenting the thanks of the Legislature of my native state for my services.

Thro' yr. Excellency I would express the deep sense of gratitude I feel for the honor thus conferred upon me by my native state—her kind consideration in thus noticing my humble part is indeed grateful to me. In the hour of danger and trial the thought, that the state of our birth, and love will approve our efforts, is a bright and cheering one—in this way is it, that Mary-

land, never unmindful of her least conspicuous sons, ever finds willing hearts prompt to obey her call, and to serve her with faithfulness and devotion. To none is her smile more dear than to the Naval Man who almost alienated from his birth-land, yet with sincere attachment to it, finds himself not forgotten. Permit me to thank yr. Excellency for the very kind and complimentary manner in which you have been pleased to communicate these resolutions, and to assure you of the additional pleasure it gives me to find my "character and public services" meeting with the approbation of the Executive of my native state.

I have the honor to be very respectfully yr. obd. svt.

JOHN CONTEE,
Lieut. U. S. Navy.

His Excellency
Governor Philip F. Thomas,
Annapolis.

CHARLES CARROLL TO GOV. P. F. THOMAS.

Dear Sir

I met General Riley¹ here yesterday, one of the heroes of Contreras and other battles in Mexico. He is a son of Maryland as you are aware. One of the pieces taken by him at Contreras was a brass 12 pr. an old and beautiful Spanish gun, and either is or is to be presented to his native State through Reverdy Johnson. He informs me that he has since learned that there is also

¹ Bennet Riley, became an ensign of rifles, January 19, 1813; 3rd-Lt. March 12, 1813; 2nd-Lt. April 15, 1814; 1st-Lt. March 31, 1817; Regimental-Adjutant, December 1816 to July 1817; Captain, August 6, 1818; transferred to 5th Infantry June 1, 1821; transferred to 6th Infantry October 3, 1821; Major 4th Infantry September 26, 1837; Lt.-Col. 2nd Infantry December 1, 1839; Colonel 1st Infantry January 31, 1850; Brevet-Major August 6, 1828, for ten years faithful service in one grade; Colonel June 2, 1840, the day on which was fought the battle of Chokachatta, Fla., in which he particularly distinguished himself by bravery and good conduct and for long, meritorious and gallant service; Brig.-Genl. April 18, 1847, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Cerro Gordo, Mexico and Major-Genl. August 20, 1847, for gallant conduct at the battle of Contreras; died, June 9, 1853.

a mate to this piece being an exact counterpart of it, taken also I believe at Contreras, and thinks that if proper application be made for it at the Department, it can also be had. Knowing the interest you feel for everything connected with the Military spirit in our State, I have thought proper to give you this information that you may act in the premises as you will deem best; at the same time I would suggest that if possible, these twin trophies should not be separated. Mr. Hagner the brother of Mrs. Joseph Nicholson, I understand has it in charge and can give all information in respect to it.

General Riley is on his way to California, where he may remain some years, and I know that I need but mention the subject to you to bespeak in advance your assistance and influence, to have a handsome sword presented to him by our State at the next meeting of the Assembly.¹

I am with great Respect, Yours

CHARLES CARROLL.

Irving House, Oct. 17 1848.
New York.

F. M. BAUGHMAN TO GOV. P. F. THOMAS.

Baltimore, June 8, 184

His Excellency P. F. Thomas
Governor of Maryland.

Sir:—

It being expected by the National Washington Monument Committee that each State will furnish *one stone of its own peculiar marble*, to be placed in some conspicuous part of the structure, I have thought it not amiss to invite your attention to that fact at this early day, inasmuch as the specimens will be fixed permanently in the wall in the order in which they may be received.²

To delay this matter until the next meeting of the Legislature, may be the means of concealing altogether the contribution of our

¹ Resolution No. 83, Acts Dec. Sess., 1849 authorized and directed the Governor to procure and present the sword to Genl. Riley.

² Resolution No. 76, Acts Dec. Sess., 1849 provides for a suitable marble block,

State. This if possible should be avoided, and as the expense will be inconsiderable, I propose with the sanction of your Excellency to prepare a suitable stone bearing our State Arms, or such other device as you may suggest, and wait for the payment until the Legislature may make provision therefor.

If your Excellency approve the suggestion and will be kind enough to notify me thereof, I will immediately correspond with the Secretary of the Association in reference to the style, dimensions, &c.

With the highest consideration, I have the honor to be your Excellency's friend & Obt. servant

F. M. BAUGHMAN.

HUNGERFORD FAMILY.

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTON.

1. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD¹ came to Maryland in 1646 and settled in Charles County. 7 April 1648, William White demands 100 acres of land for transporting himself in 1646, 100 more for William Hungerford, and 100 more for John Ward for transporting themselves in the same year, and receives a warrant for 300 acres on the south side of Hierom's Creek, "commonly known as Poplar Neck" &c. (Land Office, Lib. ABH, fol. 6). 30 May 1648, William Hungerford demands 100 acres for transporting himself in 1647, and receives a warrant for that amount of land to be laid out on Wiccocomico River (Land Office, Lib. ABH, vol. 14). It is probable that William Hungerford had removed to Virginia, and returned to Maryland in 1647, therefore making a new entry of rights. Such cases were of

to be engraved with the coat of arms of the state and the inscription: "Maryland—The memorial of her regard for the Father of his Country, and of her cordial, habitual and immovable attachment to the American Union." There does not appear to be any record as to who executed the stone, though evidently Mr. Baughman's offer was not accepted.

frequent occurrence. 2 January 1646/7, William Hungerford was among those who swore fealty to the Proprietary (*Md. Archives*, iii, 174), and 1 May 1647 he gave his note to James Lindsay for 300 lbs. of tobacco (*ibid.*, iv, 312). He seems to have been a soldier, for 29 Feb. 1647/8, William Hungerford and others petitioned "for themselves and severall soldiers" against the estate of Mrs. Margaret Brent "for their wages" (*ibid.*, i, 226). 3 Oct. 1648, William Hungerford was one of a special jury in the case of Cuthbert Fenwick vs. Mrs. Margaret Brent his Lordship's attorney (*Md. Archives*, iv, 413), and 5 Dec. 1648 he was a member of the Provincial Grand Jury (*ibid.*, 447). 15 March 1649, he again appears as member of a trial jury (*ibid.*, 481), and 3 June 1650 he entered his mark for cattle and hogs as required by law (*ibid.*, x, 13). 19 Oct. 1650, he witnesses a bill of sale of a cow by William Evans to Thomas Thomas (*ibid.*, 190). He died before 1662 as shown by the following extract: 1 Oct. 1662, "William Barton Junior delivereth up this ensuing Patent of land and Assigneth all his Right title and interest of and to the same unto his brother-in-law Thomas Smoot for the use of William Hungerford Junior son to William Hungerford deceased." Subjoined is a patent, dated 20 March 1658, to William Smoot for 240 acres in Charles County, and assigned by said William Smoot to William Barton Jr., (Charles Co., Lib. A, fol. 243). William Hungerford was father of

2. i. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD,² d. 1704.

2. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD² of Charles County, son of William Hungerford¹ the immigrant, died in 1704. His will, dated 22 January 1704, was proved 14 March following. He appears to have been a minor in 1662 (see above), and 22 Dec. 1687 a tract of 28 acres called Hungerford's Choice was surveyed for him (Charles Co. Rent Roll). He married Margaret daughter of Capt. William Barton of Charles County, probably about 1686 as their eldest son Barton Hungerford was born in 1687. In consideration of this marriage Capt. William Barton deeded, 13 June 1688, to his son-in-law William Hungerford and his daughter Margaret wife of the latter, two tracts, called Barton's Woodyard or Capell, aggregating 200 acres. Mrs. Margaret (Barton) Hungerford married secondly Jacob Miller of Charles

County who died in 1720, but seems to have had no issue by him. She was living in 1733 when she executed a deed of gift to her son Barton. William Hungerford and Margaret (Barton) his wife had issue:—

3. i. BARTON HUNGERFORD,³ b. 1687; d. 25 Jan'y 1758.
- ii. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD, b. 12 June 1694; living 1756, when he deeds land in Charles County.
- iii. THOMAS HUNGERFORD, d. 1724; mar. Mary (who mar. secondly Wm. Goodrick) but seems to have had no issue.
- iv. JOHN HUNGERFORD.
- v. CHARLES HUNGERFORD, living 1728.
- vi. ANNE HUNGERFORD, mar. Thomas Lucas of Pr. Geo. Co.
- vii. ELIZABETH HUNGERFORD, b. 14 Feb. 1691; mar. John Neale.
- viii. MARY HUNGERFORD.

3. BARTON HUNGERFORD³ of Charles County, son of William² and Margaret, was born in 1687. His age is given in depositions as 44 years in 1731 (Charles Co., Lib. 36, fol. 516); 51 in 1737 (*ibid.*, Lib. 38, fol. 430); 55 in 1742 (*ibid.*, Lib. 39, fol. 425); and 56 in 1742 (*ibid.*, Lib. 39, fol. 464). He died 25 January 1758 leaving a nuncupative will proved the following day by the oaths of witnesses who testify that "last night a little before he died" he made certain dispositions. He married Elizabeth daughter of John and Ann Gwinn of Charles County. She is mentioned in her mother's will and joined her husband in deeds in 1729 and 1743, but evidently died before him. Barton Hungerford executed deeds, in his life time, to his sons Thomas, Charles, and William, and to his daughter Elizabeth, and the names of his other children are derived from the probate records.
Barton Hungerford and Elizabeth (Gwinn) his wife had issue:—

4. i. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁴ d. 4 April 1772.
5. ii. BARTON HUNGERFORD, d. 1765.
- iii. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD, d. 1761.
- iv. CHARLES HUNGERFORD, living 1764.
- v. JOHN HUNGERFORD, d. 1766.
- vi. ELIZABETH HUNGERFORD, d. unmarried 1764.
- vii. JANE HUNGERFORD, mar. William Vincent.

4. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁴ son of Barton³ and Elizabeth, died 4 April 1772 (Family Bible). In 1753 he was living on a tract called Bachelor's Delight in Charles County, Maryland, and in that year had a deed for this land from his father, but prior to 1764 he removed to King George Co.,

Virginia. This is shown by deeds in 1764 and 1765 wherein he disposes of his Charles County lands, styling himself "Thomas Hungerford of King George County, Virginia, Gent." He was High Sheriff of Charles County from 8 Oct. 1746 to 22 Oct. 1748 (Commission Book). He died, according to family record, in Westmoreland Co., Va., where his descendants continued to reside. Thomas Hungerford married in 1738, Ann daughter of John Pratt of Westmoreland Co., Va., and Margaret Birkett his wife. She was born 26 Oct. 1718, and died 8 May 1800.

Thomas Hungerford and Ann (Pratt) his wife, had issue:—

6. i. LIEUT. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁵ d. May 1803.
- ii. GEN. JOHN PRATT HUNGERFORD, b. 1760; d. 21 Dec. 1833.

5. BARTON HUNGERFORD⁴ of Charles County, son of Barton³ and Elizabeth, died in 1765. He married Jane sister of Barton Warren, and in his will appoints his wife and his brother-in-law his executors. Mrs. Jane Hungerford died in 1795.

Barton Hungerford and Jane (Warren) his wife had issue:—

7. i. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁵ d. 1799.
- ii. MARY HUNGERFORD, mar. Thomas.
- iii. JANE HUNGERFORD.
- iv. SUSANNA HUNGERFORD, d. unmarried, Dec. 1796.
- v. ELIZABETH HUNGERFORD, mar. 8 June 1779, Philip Jenkins.
- vi. SARAH HUNGERFORD, mar. William Vincent.

6. LIEUT. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁵ son of Thomas⁴ and Ann, was an officer in the Continental Line in the Revolution, and died, according to family record in May 1803. He was commissioned, 15 Jan'y 1777, Second Lieut. in the 3rd Virginia Regiment, and served until 14 Sept. 1778 (Heitman's Register). He married Anne Washington, sister of Dr. William Washington (b. 1779; d. 1853) of Alexandria, Va. Lieut. Thomas Hungerford and Anne (Washington) his wife had issue:—

8. i. THOMAS HUNGERFORD.⁶
9. ii. COL. JOHN WASHINGTON HUNGERFORD.
10. iii. HENRY HUNGERFORD.
- iv. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD, U. S. N.; b. 1795; d. June 1814; buried in St. Paul's Churchyard, Norfolk, Va.

7. THOMAS HUNGERFORD⁵ of Charles County, son of Barton⁴ and Jane, died in 1799 intestate and his estate was adminis-

tered by his widow Violetta. He married, 17 Nov. 1778, Violetta Gwinn of Charles County and had issue :—

11. i. JOHN B. HUNGERFORD,⁶ d. 1822.
 ii. ELEANOR ANN HUNGERFORD, mar. her cousin Col. John Washington Hungerford of Westmoreland Co., Va.

8. THOMAS HUNGERFORD,⁶ son of Lieut. Thomas⁵ and Anne, married Helen Stith and had issue :—
 - i. WM. HENRY HUNGERFORD, has descendants in Alabama.
 - ii. JOHN H. HUNGERFORD, U. S. N., lost at sea.
 - iii. ROSALIE HUNGERFORD.
 - iv. HELEN HUNGERFORD.

9. COL. JOHN WASHINGTON HUNGERFORD,⁶ son of Lieut. Thomas,⁵ married his cousin Eleanor Ann Hungerford daughter of Thomas and Violetta. They had issue :—
 - i. THOS. JEFFERSON HUNGERFORD, d. unmarried 24 Dec. 1843.
 - ii. VIRGINIA HUNGERFORD, d. 1879; mar. Rev. D. M. Wharton.
 - iii. LETITIA GWINN HUNGERFORD.
 - iv. JOHN WASHINGTON HUNGERFORD, killed in battle 1863.
 - v. ELEANOR ANN HUNGERFORD, mar. Dr. F. D. Wheelwright.
 - vi. JULIA R. HUNGERFORD, mar. Colville Griffith.

10. HENRY HUNGERFORD,⁶ son of Lieut. Thomas⁵ and Anne, married Amelia Spence and had issue :—
 - i. WILLIAM HUNGERFORD, d. an infant.
 - ii. CATHERINE HUNGERFORD.
 - iii. AMELIA HUNGERFORD.
 - iv. HENRY HUNGERFORD.
 - v. HENRIETTA VIRGINIA HUNGERFORD, mar. W. H. Minnix.
 - vi. PHILIP CONTEE HUNGERFORD, mar. Amelia F. Spence.
 - vii. AMANDA F. HUNGERFORD, mar. Col. J. Warren Hutt.

11. JOHN B. HUNGERFORD⁶ of Charles County, son of Thomas⁵ and Violetta, died in 1822 intestate and his estate was administered by his widow Juliet. Her will was proved in Charles County in 1837, and in it she appointed her brother-in-law Col. John Washington Hungerford her executor and trustee for her children.
 John B. Hungerford and Juliet his wife had issue :—
 - i. VIOLETTA G. HUNGERFORD, mar. Turner.
 - ii. GERARD WOOD HUNGERFORD.
 - iii. WINIFRED HUNGERFORD.

REVIEWS.

Narratives of Early Maryland (1633-1684). Edited by Clayton Colman Hall, LL. B., A. M., of the Maryland Historical Society. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1910.

The time has gone by when histories could be written by pouring out of one bottle into another. The historian is now expected to lay his foundations in original documents, in undisputed records, and in the writings of those who either bore a part in the events or were very close to them. Of course the historian who aims at being something more than a mechanical chronicler is bound to give his interpretation of the facts; but he is also bound not to suppress or pervert them.

Fortunately, the history of Maryland has been such as to give but few openings for perversion; and if the earlier histories now need correction, it is chiefly because materials not accessible to the writers have since come to light. Fortunately, too, these earlier historians, almost to a man, wrote in good faith; and there were few of the quality of that writer who, to bolster up a false assertion, cited so much of a document as seemed to support his thesis, and deliberately suppressed the part that completely overthrew it. Not with such would I class those simple souls who tell us that Margaret Brent deserves a place in the Hall of Fame because she demanded "two votes" in the Maryland Assembly. Even if they said "three votes," why disturb their harmless fancies by referring them to the *Assembly Journal*? (Let it not be thought that I deem Mistress Brent unworthy of the distinction—far from it: but if I rightly estimate the character of that gentlewoman, I think she would object to the company. But this is *obiter dictum*.)

In the editing of this volume, the tenth in the valuable series of Original Narratives of Early American History in course of publication under the general editorship of Dr. J. F. Jameson, Mr. Hall

has rendered a service to historical writers and students that cannot be too highly estimated—a service for which he is eminently fitted by extensive knowledge and the judicial temperament. The book contains accurate reproductions of more than a score of the most important documents illustrating the foundation and infancy of the colony, taken either from original manuscripts or the earliest printed copies.

Probably the most interesting of these documents is that containing the instructions of Cecilius, Lord Baltimore, issued to the leaders of the first band of colonists. Of this vitally important paper nothing was known until 1888, when it was acquired by the Maryland Historical Society among the Calvert Papers. It is written by Baltimore's own hand, and is evidently the original draft of the instructions delivered to Leonard Calvert and the Commissioners just before the Ark and Dove set sail. The wisdom, foresight, and practical soundness of these instructions are remarkable for a young man of twenty-seven; and we can hardly err in supposing that they reflect the substance of many conversations with his wise and experienced father.

The very first article of these instructions lays down the Proprietary's fundamental policy of religious toleration. Not only were the Commissioners enjoined to permit no offence to be given on account of difference in faith, and to forbid the discussion of matters of religion, but they direct that the Catholic worship and religious acts shall be done as privately as may be, that there may be nothing to disturb the "unity and peace" which he has chiefly at heart. The words are noteworthy, for external peace might coexist with bitter internal animosity; but he wishes his colonists to dwell in "unity." This paper was not for the public eye; it was the exposition of his wishes and purposes to his brother and his two coadjutors, for them alone to see, and lay hidden among private papers until lately brought to light. It is idle after this revelation to assert, as some have done (and will doubtless continue to do) that religious toleration was forced on the Proprietary by a Protestant Assembly after the Parliament party had got the upper hand in England. It is true, that Assembly did pass a Toleration Act of its own in 1654, and it may be read in the pages of the *Journal*.

Among the narrative pieces is Father White's account of the voyage of the Ark and Dove in 1633. The Father's Latin narrative, sent by him to the General of the Jesuit order has long been known, but this account in English was prepared by him for Gov. Calvert. Its existence was not known until 1894, when the original autograph was acquired by the Historical Society.

The *Relation of Maryland*, giving a description of the Province, and instructions for those intending to settle, to which is appended a copy of the charter, has been reprinted among other early American tracts. This reproduction is made from one of the extremely rare original pamphlets issued in 1635. We have also letters from the Jesuit missionaries to the Provincial in England giving accounts of affairs in the colony, and the long letter of Leonard Calvert telling the particulars of the reduction of Kent Island.

With these we may place the rather fantastic pamphlet of George Alsop, the indented servant, written for the encouragement of men of the working class who might be considering the advisability of trying their fortunes in Maryland. George paints the colony as almost an earthly paradise; a land of peace, of ease, of virtue and of abundance. Assuredly there could be no apprehensions of starvation in a household where seven persons had eighty carcasses of deer stored and awaiting consumption. George also wished to show that the climate is not unfavorable to the elegancies of literature, and writes in a style imitating Nashe and Nathaniel Ward, as the clown in the circus imitates the acrobats.

We have also a group of controversial pamphlets, such as *The Lord Baltimore's Case*, prepared to defend his charter and government before Cromwell and his Council, when both were fiercely assailed not only by Virginians but by the Puritans in Maryland, who chose that way of showing their gratitude for a refuge from Virginian persecution. *Virginia and Maryland* is an answer to this piece. Two accounts of the battle at the Severn are given, one by a member of the Puritan party, and the other as an answer to it.

Elucidating the difficulties with Pennsylvania, we have reports

of conferences between William Penn and Charles Lord Baltimore, and Penn and George Talbot, the surveyor-general. The craft and unctuousness of the suave and labyrinthine Penn are delightfully characteristic.

Mr. Hall's introductions to the several papers are brief but sufficient, and the volume is illustrated with a map and two facsimiles. To any one studying the first half-century of Maryland's history it is simply indispensable.

WM. HAND BROWNE.

References to English Surnames in 1601. An index giving about 19,650 references to surnames contained in the printed registers of 778 English parishes during the first year of the XVII century. By F. K. & S. Hitching, 1910. Chas. A. Bernan, Walton-on-Thames.

This book is likely to be specially useful for American genealogy. Formerly American families were content to trace back to the immigrant ancestor, but this has long ceased to be the case, and now the genealogist must endeavor to follow the line back into the mother country. Occasionally it happens that family memoranda or the American Colonial records furnish data sufficient to establish the pedigree of the early immigrant, but in the vast majority of cases no such information is available, and not many years since it was almost an axiom that the line broke off on the shore of the Atlantic. At the present day the situation is somewhat better. Within recent years the researches of Col. Chester, Henry F. Waters, and others have developed new sources of information in the English records, particularly in the wills where mention is sometimes made of relatives of the testators living in America. Here, however, there is a certain difficulty, for unless the place of residence of the family can be more or less definitely fixed, it is not easy to determine in which of the many local registers search should be made. It is just here that the book under discussion is likely to afford valuable aid. It is a consolidated index of all the surnames occurring in the published

parish registers, 778 in number, from all parts of England, and, as particular surnames cling to particular localities, a reference to the book will often at once locate the family for which search is being made. A foothold once gained, the rest is comparatively easy. The present volume deals with the year 1601, and the compilers intend to continue the work until at least thirty years are covered. The book is conveniently arranged, and attractively printed. It is published by Chas. A. Bernan, whose useful contribution to genealogy are well known.

NOTES.

"A Brief History of the Colony of New Sweden" forms part of Vol. 18 of the *Proceedings of the Pennsylvania-German Society*.

The first instalment of F. Hopkinson Smith's new story "Kennedy Square," the scene of which is laid in Baltimore, is begun in *Scribners'* for November.

Among the Virginia Legislative Papers published in the October number of the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* is a letter from John Hanson to the President of the Council of Safety of Virginia in regard to the case of Major John Connolly.

The *Library World* for September contains a list of American newspapers in the British Museum. The list is limited to the cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, covering the years 1801 to 1836.

The current volume of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* contains an unusual number of interesting Maryland items. In the lists of emigrants to America during 1774-75 are included the names of many passengers carried to Maryland in the following ships: "Baltimore," "Elizabeth," "Hope," "Nancy," "Neptune," "Peggy Stewart," "Rebecca,"

"Restoration," "Russa Merchant," "Sally," "Sampson," "Sirus," "Sophia" and "Wren." In addition to these are other lists of passengers for Maryland or Virginia.

Mr. E. Clayton Wyand has recently published a work entitled "A brief history of Andrew Putman, Christian Wyandt and Adam Snyder of Washington County, Md."

In the *American Historical Review* for October, Dr. Charles M. Andrews reviews vol. II of the "Acts of the Privy Council of England, Colonial Series"; at page 208 of the same issue is a note in regard to the earliest publication of the "Star Spangled Banner"; and at page 210 is a notice of the "Great Secession Winter, 1860-1861," which "gives a novel picture of Maryland politics at the time."

The Bureau of the Census has recently issued in a volume of 670 pages, the second part of its Special Report on Religious Bodies. This contains the history, description and statistics of the separate denominations and is a veritable cyclopaedia of information in regard to the two hundred denominations therein listed.

Mr. Tunstall Smith of this city has published "A Memoir of Richard Snowden Andrews, Lieut.-Colonel commanding the First Maryland Artillery, C. S. A."

"The Neglected period of Anti-Slavery in America (1808-1831)," by Alice Dana Adams, is a valuable contribution to the literature of slavery. The period covered is exhaustively treated and there appear a surprisingly large number of references to Anti-slavery societies and individuals in Maryland. The appendix contains a comprehensive bibliography of sources.

"The Stone House at Gowanus," notable for the part it played in the battle of Long Island, is described in a work with the above title, by Georgia Fraser. Published by Witter and Kintner, N. Y.

"Colonial Families of the United States of America" by Mr. George Norbury Mackenzie, has been presented to the Society by the author. This sumptuous volume has been most favorably reviewed in genealogical and other critical publications.

The Society has received as a gift from the author, Mr. Josiah Granville Leach, "Some account of Capt. John Frazier and his descendants, with notes on the West and Checkley families." Privately printed, 1910. This volume contains extensive notices concerning the Stewart family of Baltimore, among whose distinguished representatives were the late David and C. Morton Stewart.

Supplementing the list of vessels arriving in the Province of Maryland between 1634 and 1679 (printed on page 339 of this issue), an examination of the Proceedings of the Council for the period covered (*Archives*, vols. 3 and 5) discloses the following named vessels:

Ann and Joice (of Bristol), Capt. Wm. Trigo,	-	-	1671
Charity (of London), Capt. John Bosworth,	-	-	1654
Deborah,	-	-	1637
Expedition (of New England), Capt. Henry Hudson,			1662
George (of Bantry), Capt. Jacob Van Slodt,	-	-	1658
Greene Poppingay,	-	-	1649
John (of Weymouth),	-	-	1671
John Adventure (of New England), Capt. Richard Thurston,			1651
John and Margaret (of Bristol),	-	-	1671
Maid of Gaunt,	-	-	1654
Mayflower (of London), Capt. Thomas Webber,	-	-	1654
Patience (of Bristol), Capt. William Trigo,	-	-	1671
St. George (of Graft),	-	-	1659
St. Margaret,	-	-	1637
St. Nicholas, Capt. James Neale,	-	-	1638
St. Thomas,	-	-	1637
Sarah and Elizabeth, Capt. Wm. Harris,	-	-	1671
William (of Dover), Capt. Edward Maynard,	-	-	1670

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

Meeting of October 10th, 1910.—Stated meeting of the Society, President Cohen in the chair and twenty-five members present. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Mr. Edward Stabler, Jr., was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

Mr. J. Henry Baker and Miss Emma E. Johnstone were elected active members.

The following necrology since the last meeting was announced :

John Austin Stevens, a corresponding member.

E. Francis Riggs, an associate member.

Richard D. Fisher, an active member.

Charles K. Oliver, an active member.

Isaac H. Dixon, an active member.

Miss Elizabeth Manigault Morris, an active member.

The President referred briefly to the death of Mr. John Stevens of New York City and Newport, R. I., who had been a contributor of papers to the Society. In regard to the death of Mr. Richard D. Fisher he spoke feelingly as follows :

“This announcement brings to us a realization of the great loss we have sustained in the removal from the activities of the Society of one of its most interested and useful members.

“Mr. Fisher’s connection with the Society extended over more than forty years and his active interest in its pursuits was maintained to the last.

“For myself I can say that I shall greatly miss the benefit of his wise counsel and the coöperation and support he was always on occasion so ready to render.

“It seems eminently fitting that a suitable record of our appreciation of his services should be entered on our minutes and the chair would suggest the appointment of a Committee to prepare

such a minute, to be presented at the November meeting of the Society."

Upon motion of Mr. W. Hall Harris it was voted that the President appoint a Committee of three members to prepare and submit to the Society's next meeting a minute suitably expressive of the loss the Society has sustained in the death of our friend and co-worker Mr. Fisher.

The paper for the evening "Queen Anne's County—First Free School," was then read by Mr. Edwin H. Brown, its author, which concluded the proceedings.

Meeting of November 14th, 1910.—Stated meeting of the Society, President Cohen in the chair and twenty-four members present. The following persons were elected to active membership: Mr. L. Wethered Barroll, Mr. Francis B. Culver, Mr. Walter G. O'Dell, Sr., Mrs. John Barry, Miss Ella V. Ricker. Dr. Albert L. Wilkinson and Mrs. Anna Latimer Phillips to associate membership.

The Committee appointed at the October meeting to prepare a minute upon the death of the late Richard D. Fisher reported through its Chairman, Mr. W. Hall Harris, as follows:

"Richard Douglas Fisher was born in Baltimore on March 16th, 1834, and died at Clifton Springs, New York, on August 13th, 1910.

"Mr. Fisher had been in active business until a few years before his death, and becoming an active member of the Society in 1866, he brought to it, even during his busier years, the assistance of his business training and experience, while with greater leisure he had for some years past given to it increasing thought and interest, adding to its historical archives matter of the rarest value, secured by him both in this country and abroad, with much personal labor and at no inconsiderable cost, and contributing, as a member of its Council, the aid which his mercantile education peculiarly fitted him to furnish.

"The many and valuable contributions,—continued to the last

meeting of the Society before his death,—for which the Society is so greatly indebted to Mr. Fisher, comprised maps, manuscripts, prints, copies of records obtained at home and abroad, journals of the privateers and letters-of-marque *Lawrence, Pelican, Decatur, Osprey*, the Edson correspondence, the “Good Intent” papers, the Boucher papers, the Index of Uncalendared Maryland Papers in the British Treasury and many others, but no enumeration may be made of the far more valuable contributions of sound judgment, wise counsel, kindly advice and thoughtful suggestion for which the Society,—and more especially its Council, record this inadequate expression of sincere appreciation.

“Of strong convictions, of unswerving loyalty, of unimpeachable rectitude, he was yet considerate of those whose views did not coincide with his own and of so graceful speech and courteous demeanor as to disarm opposition and transform difference into agreement.

“In sorrowful recognition of the great loss which it has sustained in the death of Mr. Fisher this Society places upon its records this expression of its admiration and appreciation of one who throughout a long and well-spent life has ever shone as a merchant of unsullied honor, a friend of unwavering fidelity, a gentleman of unbounded courtesy, a man of unlimited kindness,—who walked uprightly among his fellow men and humbly before his God.

W. HALL HARRIS, Chairman.

CLAYTON C. HALL,

RICHARD M. DUVAL.

It was ordered that the report be spread upon the minutes and that a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of the late Mr. Fisher.

The necrology since the October meeting was announced by the Recording Secretary as follows :

On October 11th, Henry Fenwick Thompson.

“ “ 27th, John C. Moore.

“ “ 29th, William B. Hunt.

“ November 9th, Dr. A. Marshall Elliott.

The President spoke of the loss to the Society of so many valuable members. Continuing he remarked :

"Especially are we bereaved by the death on October 11th of Mr. Henry F. Thompson, a Vice-President of the Society, who for nigh forty years was actively connected with its affairs.

"A gentleman of cultivated taste, he devoted much of his leisure to historical research, and of late years could be found almost daily in our Council room occupied with studies which frequently resulted in a contribution to the pages of our *Magazine* and occasionally in a more elaborate paper read before the Society.

"Here his very presence added dignity to our rooms, whilst his fund of information, treasured in an acute memory was always at the service of a proper enquirer and with a degree of courtesy and affability which was unfailing.

"We shall all miss him greatly—none more so than myself."

The President called on Mr. Andrew C. Trippe whose regard for our late member had led him to prepare a minute for the occasion, who responded as follows :

"Henry Fenwick Thompson was born on the 15th day of January, 1830, and died on the 11th day of October, 1910, aged 80 years and nine months.

"He was the eldest son of Henry Anthony Thompson and Julie Kilina de Macklot.

"His father was a man of large physique and military bearing, having been a Captain in the army, and resigning was President of the Bank of Baltimore for many years.

"From his father he inherited a strong sense of duty and that strong constitution which gave him so long a life, and from his mother it may well be said there came that geniality of disposition and courtesy of manner which characterized his intercourse with his fellows.

"Early in life he developed a fondness for travel and at eighteen years of age he made a voyage to Rio Janeiro. During the strenuous days in the early settlement of California (1854)

he went to San Francisco and was with the Santa Clara Mining Company for three years.

"On his return home (1857) he read law in the office of the late Robert J. Brent, and in 1865 was married to Margaret Sprigg Oliver.

"His first visit to Europe was made in 1868, whence he returned in 1871, having traveled leisurely in Great Britain and the principal cities of the Continent, which he revisited in 1892. In this year he was elected a Trustee of the Peabody Institute.

"On the 13th day of February, 1888, he became a member of this Society upon the nomination of Mr. John G. Gatchell and at once took an active interest in its affairs.

"On February 11th, 1895, he was elected librarian and continued in that office until October 10th, 1898, and then resigned and went to Europe remaining there until the spring of 1903 with the exception of two months in which he made a brief visit home.

"He was elected a Vice-President of this Society on February 10th, 1906, and re-elected in each succeeding year.

"Mr. Thompson was a diligent and intelligent student of Maryland history and during his last two visits to London made extensive researches relative thereto in the Public Record Office. The result of his labors were in part the many interesting, instructive and valuable papers he read at our Monthly Meetings and which have been published in our *Magazine*. Mr. Thompson also made valuable contributions to the Cabinet.

"His was a busy and fruitful life extended through a vigorous old age. And now permit me to add a word of kindly remembrance. Mr. Thompson was a gentleman in the strictest sense of the word. Courteous to all, kindly in manner, faithful in duty, patriotic in spirit, he was a type of man worthy of admiration and by those of us who were associates with him in this place his departure is keenly felt."

It was moved and ordered that the minute just read be spread on the minutes of the Society and that a copy of same be transmitted to the family of the late Mr. Thompson.

The address of the evening entitled, "Notes on a Colonial Free School in Anne Arundel County, with side lights on the early education of Johns Hopkins," was then read by its author, Mr. Daniel R. Randall.

At its conclusion the Society adjourned.

THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Members of the society are requested to solicit contributions of books, maps, portraits and manuscripts of historical value or importance, particularly such as may throw light upon the political, social or religious life of the people of Maryland.

The Society will become the custodian of such articles of the above character as the possessors may care to *deposit* should they be unwilling to give them, and will preserve them in the fire-proof vault.

Any book or pamphlet written by a native or resident of Maryland or in any way relating to Maryland, will be gratefully accepted and preserved.

THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE.

The *Maryland Historical Magazine*, which is issued quarterly by the Maryland Historical Society, will accept for publication a limited number of advertisements of a suitable character.

The special attention of Schools, Colleges and Booksellers is called to this high class medium.

Those who have for sale old and rare books, pamphlets, etc., will find it of advantage to avail themselves of our pages.

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Vol. V

DECEMBER, 1910

No. 4

MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE

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